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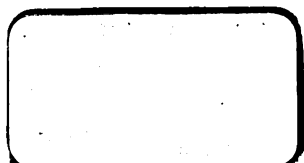
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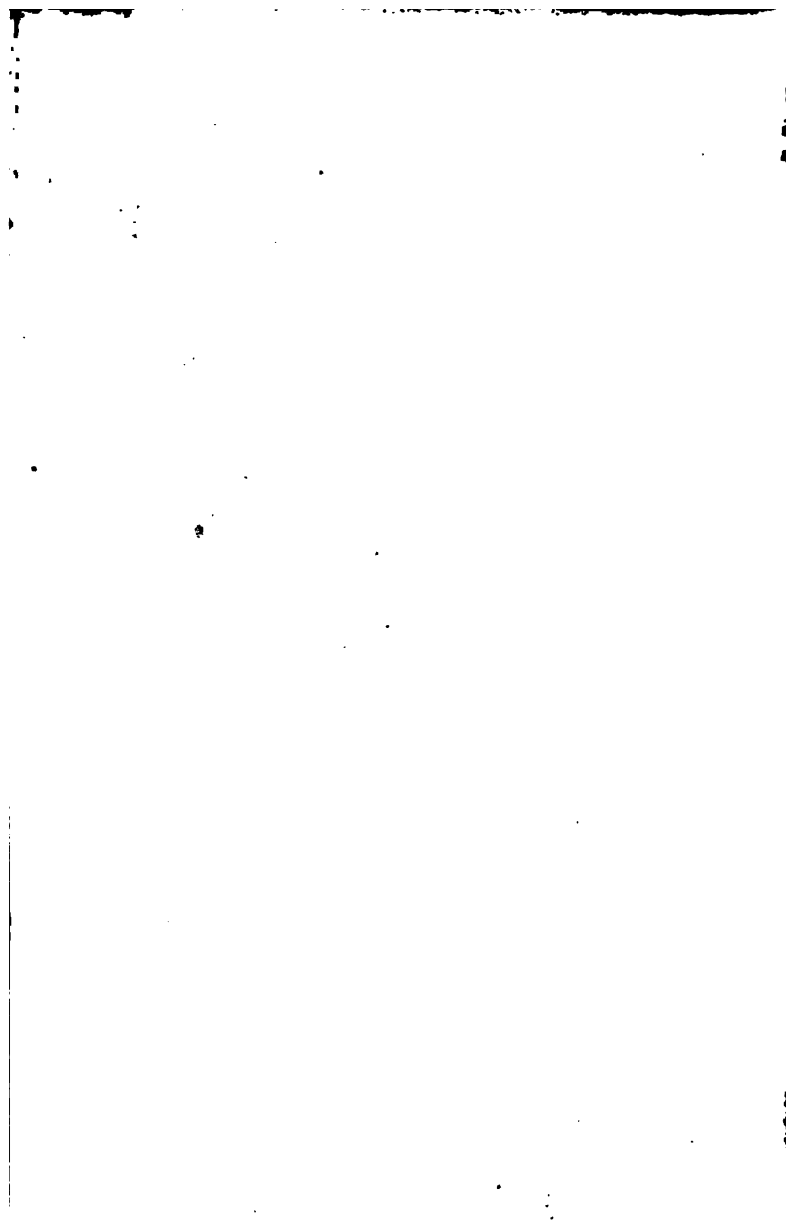
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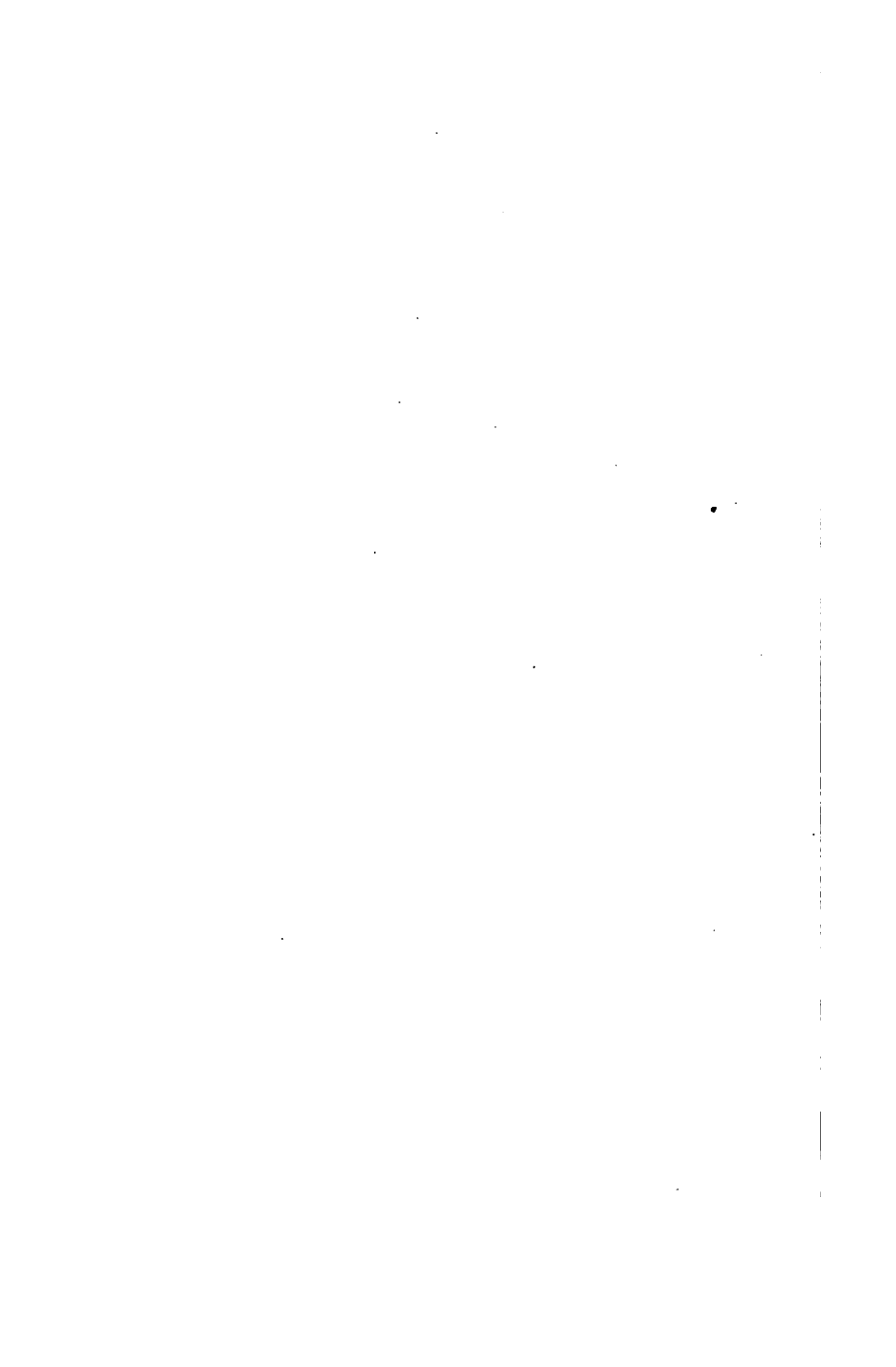
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HISTORY
OF THE
REBELLION IN IRELAND,
IN THE YEAR 1798:

CONTAINING
AN IMPARTIAL ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
IRISH REVOLUTIONISTS,
From the breaking-out of the Rebellion till its
Suppression.

WITH
AN ACCOUNT OF THE
INSURRECTION IN DUBLIN,
IN THE YEAR 1803.

Compiled from the most authentic Accounts,



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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
<i>Breaking out of the Rebellion</i> - - - - -	1
<i>Attack upon Nuss</i> - - - - -	5
— upon Prosperous - - - - -	6
— upon Clane - - - - -	7
<i>Attack on Ballymore-eustace</i> - - - - -	9
<i>Insurrection at Kildare</i> - - - - -	10
<i>Attack upon Monastereven</i> - - - - -	12
<i>Attack on Rathangan</i> - - - - -	14
— on Kilsullen - - - - -	17
— on Carlow - - - - -	21
— on Kilcock - - - - -	25
<i>Insurrection near Narraghmore</i> - - - - -	27
<i>Attempt to poison the garrison at Rathcoole</i> - - - - -	31
<i>Attack upon Maynooth</i> - - - - -	32
<i>Battle at Oviotstown</i> - - - - -	33
— of Tara - - - - -	34
<i>Attack on Newtown-mount-kennedy</i> - - - - -	41
<i>Battle of Oulart</i> - - - - -	59

	PAGE
<i>Battle of Ballinruff and Kiltomas-hill</i>	65
— of Enniscorthy	66
— of Tubberneering	111
— of Ross	117
<i>Massacre of Protestants at Scullabogue</i>	127
<i>Battle of Arklow</i>	134
<i>Re-taking of Vinegar-hill and Enniscorthy</i>	143
<i>Massacre on the bridge at Wexford</i>	153
<i>Battle of Hacketstown</i>	162
— of Whiteheaps	167
— of Clonard	169
— of Castlecomer	175
— of Antrim	179
— of Saintfield	181
— of Ballinahinch	182
<i>Landing of the French troops in the bay of Killybegs</i>	186
<i>Battle of Castlebar</i>	167
<i>Surrender of the French troops at Ballinamuck</i>	195
<i>Insurrection in Dublin in the year 1803.</i>	219



INTRODUCTION.

FOR some time previous to the Rebellion in 1798, many outrages were committed by the disaffected, great numbers of pikes and fire arms were discovered by the military, and blacksmiths were arrested while manufacturing them in various parts of the kingdom. It was also observed that the woods were cleared of the timber which was convenient for making pike handles. These circumstances alarmed the loyalists and the magistrates made application to government, and had several districts in the southern and midland counties proclaimed. On the 18th of March, 1798, thirteen principal members of the conspiracy were arrested in the house of Mr. Oliver Bond, of Bridge Street, in Dublin: in the arrest were included Thomas Addis Emmett, a lawyer; William James Mr. Devin; Arthur O'Connor, and Oliver Bond. These and other arrests, together with proclamations and new laws enacted for the prevention of rebellion in different districts, were not sufficient to prevent an insurrection. In consequence of which, orders were given to the officers commanding the king's troops, to employ them with the

utmost vigour for the suppression of the conspiracy, and for disarming the rebels in the most effectual manner.

Sir Ralph Abercrombie, then chief commander of the forces, issued a manifesto on the 3d of April, requiring all persons to surrender their arms in the course of ten days, and threatening to distribute large bodies of troops among them, to live at free-quarters, in case of their not complying. At the expiration of the term, great numbers of the troops were quartered on the houses of the disaffected, whose circumstances were much injured by the maintenance of the soldiery. The troops burned many houses and the furniture, whose concealed arms were found or seditious meetings had been held, and committed various cruelties, under pretence of searching for arms. These severities and vexatious acts of the soldiery enraged the Roman Catholics so much, that in spite of the exhortations of their chiefs, to bear their distresses with patience, until an opportunity of successful insurrection should occur, great numbers of them determined to surrender their arms and return to their allegiance. When the rebel leaders found that their men were actually surrendering their arms in great numbers, they resolved to try their strength against government, without the assistance of their allies, the French, and a military committee was accordingly instituted.

Government being aware of the intended insurrection, made every necessary preparation, and considerably aug-

mented the yeomanry, both cavalry and infantry. Several other persons were arrested, among whom was Lord Edward Fitzgerald, who made his escape from Mr. Bond's house on the 12th of March, and for whose apprehension one thousand pounds reward had been offered. Lord Edward was arrested on the 19th, in the house of Nicholas Murphey, in Thomas street, Dublin, by William Bellingham Swan, Major Sirr, and Captain Ryan. His lordship made so desperate a defence, with only a dagger, that Swan was wounded, and Ryan died of his wounds eleven days after. Lord Edward himself was severely wounded in the conflict.

On the 21st of May, Henry and John Sheares, brothers, natives of Cork, and men of great abilities, were arrested, and committed to prison.



The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the various departments of the Government of the State of New York, for the year 1900.

HISTORY

OF THE

REBELLION IN IRELAND.

GOVERNMENT having received information that the rebels meant to cut off a small party of yeomen cavalry, which were stationed at Rathfarnham, a few miles from Dublin, on the 23d of May; it was therefore recommended to the commanding officer to mount the whole troop on guard that night; which proved very fortunate, for soon after they had assembled, a man (with intent of leading the patrol into ambush) went and offered to conduct them to a place where a number of rebels were assembled; but the arrival of the whole troop, instead of the usual guard, intimidated the rebels so much that they concealed themselves in the adjacent hedges. On the return of the troop they were informed that the rebels had passed through Rathfarnham and moved towards Crumlin. The commander immediately sent an express to the Viceroy, and informed him that the rebels had risen in that neighbourhood.

The Viceroy immediately ordered the civil and military officers to take the most decisive measures to defeat the designs of the insurgents.

The yeomen; in number about 3500, and the few military who were in the garrison, repaired to their respective alarm posts; and as it was known that a spirit of disaffection existed among the troops quartered at Lehaunstown camp, seven miles from Dublin; and as it was expected that they would come to the assistance of the insurgents in the metropolis, the lord mayor posted the city of Cork regiment, with their two battalion guns, at the north side of Stephen's-green, and remained all night at their head.

The two canals formed a complete fortification on the north and south sides of the city. The Royal canal extending from the river Liffey to the Broad-stone on the north, and the Grand canal environed the south, from the river on the east side, to the Royal Hospital. All the bridges were immediately occupied by the yeomen and military, which were at such distances that they could have prevented an enemy from passing over the river or canals; and in a few days pallisades and gates were erected on the bridges, which prevented all communication between the disaffected on either side.

The rebel drums were to have beat to arms an hour after ours, and if they had preceded us, the fate of the city and its loyal inhabitants would have been decided; for the mass of the people, armed with pikes and other wea-

poons, were lurking in lanes and bye-places, ready at the first beat of their drums, and would have occupied all the streets, and killed the yeomen before they could have reached their respective stations.

The lamps not being lighted at the usual time, the lord mayor sent to the board that superintends that business, and was informed that the lamp-lighters were concerned in the plot. The yeomen therefore compelled them to light the lamps.

Samuel Neilson meditated an attack upon Newgate, for the purpose of rescuing the state prisoners who were confined there; and was to have been assisted by a numerous band of rebels.

Mr. Gregg, the gaoler of Newgate, perceiving a person reconnoitering it about nine o'clock, approached him; but he turned away and endeavoured to conceal his face. Gregg recognised Neilson, and having seized him, a scuffle ensued. After struggling for some time, Neilson drew a pistol from his pocket and endeavoured to fire it; but Gregg let the powder out of the pan. While they were thus struggling two yeomen came up and assisted Gregg, who committed him.

The castle was to have been attacked by a great number of rebels; a party of which was to ascend with ladders into the bed-chambers of the principal members of government, and to have murdered or carried them off as hostages.

It was intended that the insurrection should be general all over the kingdom as soon as possible after it took place in Dublin : for this purpose, it was agreed that the rebels in remote parts should rise if the mail coaches did not arrive at their respective destinations as usual.

The Belfast coach therefore was burnt at Santry ; the Cork mail coach at Naas ; and that going towards Athlone at Lucan. Near the Curragh of Kildare, the rebels murdered the guard and the coachman of the mail-coach going towards Limerick.

Near Rathcool there was a skirmish, in the first onset of which the yeomen were defeated ; but being reinforced by a small party of the 5th dragoons they completely dispersed them, after killing two and wounding a great many of them. The bodies of the killed were exhibited in the castle yard.

A party of soldiers met with a band of rebels at Clonsilla, with whom they had a slight skirmish, and killed three of them ; whose bodies were suspended in Barrackstreet.

A company of the Fermanagh regiment burnt the houses of the disaffected in the village of Ballybeghill. While they were thus engaged, an officer informed them that the detachment quartered at Westfieldtown had been surprised by a large body of rebels, who carried them off as prisoners, after having wounded some of them. They then pursued the rebels who had carried them off and found they had destroyed a great number of houses in

in their progress; and had compelled many people to join them.

Attack upon Naas.

On the 23d of May, the garrison at Naas was informed that the town would be attacked that night; in consequence of which every precaution was adopted. Early in the morning of the 24th, a dragoon came in from an out-post and announced that the rebels were advancing towards the town, in great numbers. Soon after they entered the town in four different places; the greater part from the north, and penetrated almost to the Gaol, where they made a most desperate attack, in which Captain Davis was mortally wounded; but were repulsed by a party of the Armagh militia, with one piece of cannon, and a detachment of the antient Britons.

Large parties of the rebels, who stole unnoticed into the town, fought sometime in the streets, and stood three volleys from a party of the Armagh militia, posted opposite the barrack, before they gave way; at last they fled in every direction; when the cavalry charged and killed a great many of them in the pursuit.

In their flight they dropped a great number of pikes, and other arms. Three men with green cockades were seized near the town, whom they immediately hanged in the public streets.

Attack on Prosperous.

The rebels were more successful in this enterprise than that at Naas, for on the 24th of May the two centinels were killed, and the barracks were assaulted while the soldiers were asleep. The barrack of the Cork company consisted of a hall, an apartment on each side, the same in the next story, and under-ground offices. A party of the rebels rushed into Captain Swaine's apartment, and murdered him. Some soldiers who were in the opposite apartment, came forward and expelled those ruffins, after having killed some of them.

A fierce conflict ensued between the rebels and the besieged, but was soon put an end to by the former. There was a quantity of straw in the under-ground office, to which they set fire. The soldiers were soon in a state of suffocation, and they retreated to their comrades in the upper story; but the flame soon reached them there, as the rebels threw faggots among the burning straw under them. Some of them leaped out of the windows; but were received on the pikes of the enemies and immediately put to death. At last the soldiers determined to rush forward and fight their way through the rebels, who were very numerous; but were received on their pikes, so that few of them escaped.

The deputy barrack master, his wife and three children, with some others, retired into one of the under-ground offices for safety, and remained there during this

scene of carnage. At last they came to the door, preceded by his wife, when a young man, possessed of some humanity, conducted them to safety.

Mr. Brewer, an Englishman, noted for humanity and charity, was piked to death in his own house, by a person of the name of Robin ; who, aided by P. Farrell, carried the body to the front door ; on which the mob gave three cheers.

The house of Mrs. Boynage was attacked by a large party of rebels, who vowed destruction to the house, unless Mr. Stammers, who was proprietor of part of Prosperous, was delivered up to them. He then came forward and delivered himself up to save the house, and desired them to shoot him there, rather than put him to a cruel death ; he also besought them to spare the house and its inhabitants ; all of whom conjured the rebels to spare Mr. Stammers. They promised compliance, but carried him among his town-people, and shot him.

Our troops in this action lost about sixty in killed and wounded, and five were made prisoners.

Attack upon Clane.

On the 24th of May, the main body of the rebels stole into the town unperceived, except by a trumpeter, who immediately alarmed the garrison. Captain Jephson, of the Armagh militia, looked out of the window, and saw the streets almost filled with rebels, variously armed. The

soldiers who were in the town endeavoured to assemble at the usual place; but had to fight their way through the rebels; and in doing so, two were killed and five wounded. However the remainder assembled and repulsed the rebels.

The yeomen and militia fired about three rounds, when they began to disperse; leaving a great many killed, and six prisoners, who were hanged the next day. They pursued the rebels on the Common, and burnt the houses in which they had taken refuge.

On their return to Clane, Captain Griffiths hardly had time to draw up the yeomen and militia, before a party of rebels, mounted on the horses and furnished with the arms and accoutrements of the antient Britons, made a charge into the town. By one volley they killed six or seven of them, the remainder took shelter behind a party of rebel infantry, which were approaching from Prosperous; with the arms and cloathing of the soldiers whom they had plundered in that town. As they were not strong enough to attack so numerous a party, they took post on an elevated ground, near the Commons, and there they waited for the enemy, who began a smart fire upon them, but without effect. Our troops, having returned the fire, killed and wounded a great many of them; on which they fled, and were charged by the yeomen, who cut down many of them. In their flight, they dropped a great many pikes, muskets, and sabres.

Attack on Ballymore-Eustace.

As the united Irishmen in the neighbourhood of Ballymore-Eustace were known to have a quantity of arms, detachments of the 9th dragoons, the Tyrone, Antrim, and Armagh militia, under the command of Captain Beevor, were sent to compel a surrender of them, by living at free quarters. They so far succeeded that three thousand stand of arms of different descriptions were delivered to them. Captain Beevor supposed that the people had renounced their rebellious designs, and therefore sent off one hundred and twenty men to lighten the distress of the people. But in the night he was awaked by the cry of a person; and on his rising two rebels rushed into his bed-chamber, one of whom fired at him, but fortunately missed him; on which he fired a pistol, which lay at his bedside, and shot him through the body. The other made a lunge at him with his pike, but he avoided it; when Lieutenant Pattickson arrived and ran him through the body. Twenty-eight dragoons joined the captain, and took post in his house, which was attacked for near two hours, by a large body of rebels, whom they at length repulsed. In the mean time, the rebels set fire to several houses where the soldiers were quartered; and murdered seven of the dragoons and three of the Tyrone militia, and wounded three of the former and two of the latter.

At length Captain Beevor and twelve dragoons sallied out and routed them in every direction.

Lieutenant Mc. Farland, of the Tyrone Militia, was shot through the body. They entered the house of Mr. Henderson, a revenue officer, and shot him in his bed. Captain Beevor's servant was shot in his bed.

Insurrection at Kildare.

About two o'clock in the afternoon of the 23d of May, General Wilford, who commanded the troops at Kildare, received an order from General Dundas, who had had an engagement with the rebels at Kilcullen, to march the troops to his assistance. On leaving the town he sent orders to Captain Winter, who commanded at Monastereven, to follow him. When he arrived at Kildare he received orders from the general, to burn all the camp equipage lodged at Kildare; but Mr. O Reilly represented to him the danger of setting fire to the town, and informed him that the inhabitants would protect the baggage. He therefore desisted from burning it.

As soon as the king's troops had left the town, the inhabitants rung the market bell, as a signal for a general insurrection. About 2000 rebels, headed by one Roger Mc. Garry, marched into the town, and seized all the officers' baggage and the camp equipage, and a great quantity of pikes and fire-arms, which had been surrendered a day or two before. The protestant inhabitants, fearing they would be massacred, immediately fled towards

Naas and Monastereven, for protection ; and as soon as they had left the town, their houses and property were plundered and destroyed.

Mr. Crawford, his wife, and grand-daughter were stopped by a party of rebels, as they were endeavouring to make their escape. One of them struck his wife with a musket, and another stabbed her in the back with a pike. Mr. Crawford having endeavoured to save her, he was knocked down ; and while they were disputing whether they should kill them, she stole behind a hedge and concealed herself. They then massacred him with pikes ; and the grand-daughter received so many wounds, that she soon after expired.

About eleven o'clock that night they stopped the Limerick mail coach, and massacred one of the passengers, Lieutenant Giffard of the 82d regiment. They advised him to join them, as they wanted officers, and offered him a command in the rebel army, if he would take an oath to be true to them, and join them in an attack upon Monastereven the next morning : to this the gallant youth replied that he had sworn allegiance to his king ; and that he never would disgrace himself by joining the king's enemies. On this they assaulted him with the utmost fury ; but he, having a case of pistols, which he used with effect, and being very active, burst from them and made towards a house, but it afforded him no refuge ; it being the house of poor Crawford, whom, with his grand-daughter, as before related, they had just piked. A band

of the barbarians, returning from this exploit, met Lieutenant Giffard; there he fell covered with wounds. His body was thrown into the same ditch with Crawford.

Early in the morning Mc. Garry, with about 1200 rebels under his command, marched for Monastereven, and on their way they plundered and destroyed a great many houses; and murdered a number of persons.

Attack upon Monastereven.

In Monastereven there was a corps of yeomen infantry and another of cavalry; in all about one hundred men. Having received intelligence that the rebels were advancing they made circuits round the country, to give the loyal inhabitants an opportunity of retreating into the town. They met great numbers of rebels repairing to their leaders, with whom they had some skirmishes; in one of which they rescued a small party of the antient Britons, one of whom the rebels had barbarously murdered. One of the troop was severely wounded.

About four o'clock in the morning of the 24th of May, this little garrison was assailed by a numerous body of rebels; but such was the spirit and steadiness of these yeomen, assisted by a few volunteers, that the assailants were repulsed in every quarter; though they could not be prevented from setting fire to part of the town. The infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Bagshot, advanced against the main body of the enemy on the bank

of the grand canal, where the town is situate; while the cavalry, under Captain Haystead, skirmished with another party in the street. On the return of part of the infantry, a furious attack was made in conjunction with the cavalry, and the rebels were driven from the town with great slaughter. Sixty-eight of their dead were said to be collected and buried by the yeomen; some are supposed to have been carried away by the rebels, many of whom were wounded. On the part of the loyalists nine were slain.

When the rebels were entering the town of Monaster-een, they attacked the house of Mr. Christian, with a design of murdering him and his family; but was driven from it by the fire of the yeomen.

The house of Mr. Darragh,* of Eagle-hill, was attacked on the 24th of May, by a band of rebels who swore they would carry off, on their pikes, all the heads of the inmates. It was defended by his brother-in-law, two other gentlemen, two soldiers, and two servants. They had just time to place the barricadoes to the windows, when a furious assault was made by the rebels, and many volleys

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* An attempt was made on the life of Mr. Darragh, an active magistrate, in the month of March, 1798. When walking in his lawn, a man presented him a paper, under a pretext of seeking for justice; and when he was perusing it, he drew a pistol, and fired it at him; the ball entered his groin; he then drew another pistol and fired it into his back, with the muzzle so close, that both the ball and the wadding entered his body; yet he recovered.

were fired into the windows, and some balls found their way into the room where Mr. Darrah lay on the bed of pain and sickness. They were so fortunate as to route the whole party, after killing and wounding many of them. They rebels carried off all their killed and wounded except one ruffian, who fell when he was endeavouring to break open a window near the hall,

Attack on Rathangan.

On the 24th of May the rebels were in a state of insurrection for some miles round Rathangan. Captain Langton with a company of the South Cork militia, who was quartered there, kept patrols that night, which was very fortunate, as they had skirmishes with different parties of the rebels who were marching against the town.

The loyal inhabitants of Rathangan were in the greatest consternation all that night, as they could see many habitations on fire in the country, and their owners flocking into the town, after having narrowly escaped with their lives; and could hear the rebels uttering the most dreadful shouts and yells.

Captain Langton having received an order from Gen. Dundas, to march to Sallins, he left Rathangan on the day following, and wished Mr. Spencer (a magistrate, and captain of a company of yeomenry) to accompany him. On the 26th the rebels entered the town, and sur-

rounded Mr. Spencer's house, which he had barricadoed, and introduced into it three farmers and some labourers. They broke in the window shutters and put large quantities of burning straw into the rooms. Mr. Spencer perceiving that resistance would be fruitless, assured them that he would quietly surrender his arms. They desired him to descend and he complied with their wishes; on which one Dootley flourished a scymitar over his head, and used some insolent language. Mr. Spencer asked him "What he had ever done to offend him?" Doorley replied "You would not give me a protection against the soldiers, when they came upon free quarters." Mr. Spencer then retired into the house, and was pursued by a party of them, who murdered him on his stair-case.

They then killed the protestant farmers, who were in the house. The labourers being catholics, were not injured, and they joined the mob.

Mr. Moore and about fifteen yeomen infantry, retreated into the house of Mr. Neal, on the approach of the rebels. They asked him to surrender his arms, and assured him that his person should not be injured; but he refused to comply until some respectable females besought him to surrender; thinking that further resistance would terminate in the destruction of the besieged. At last they acceded to the terms which had been delusively offered; but found they had been deceived; for the rebels murdered every protestant they found in the house. On the

whole nineteen protestants were murdered in this little village, while it was in the possession of the rebels, who exulted in their savage brutality.

On the 28th Lieutenant-colonel Mahone of the 7th dragoon guards, marched to the relief of the town with a detachment of his regiment and some yeomen cavalry. He divided the squadron into two parts, with a view of surrounding the rebels. One party arriving first, passed through and joined the other without any molestation. They then returned to see that every thing was right; but received a smart fire of musketry from the windows, by which three men were killed and eleven wounded; and six horses were killed and twelve wounded. Lieutenant Malone, whose horse was shot under him, became their prisoner, after being shot through his cloaths.

On the 29th, the city of Cork militia, under Colonel Longfield, with a detachment of dragoons, and two field pieces, appeared at some distance from the town; on which the rebels sent a flag of truce to the commanding officer, with a letter, importing that the rebels would immediately put Mr. Malone to death, if the king's troops did not retire; but the Colonel advanced precipitately, after firing a few rounds of cannon shot, which dislodged the rebels, and put them to flight; and they fled without injuring Mr. Malone. About sixty of the rebels were slaughtered in the pursuit, without any loss on the part of the king's troops. Some of the rebel leaders were taken and immediately hanged.

When the military appeared, the rebels had begun to strip the lead from the roof of the church ; and then they intended to burn it. The next day they would have put all the protestant women and children to death ; if the king's troops had not arrived.

Attack on Kilcullen.

The magistrates of Kilcullen were thoroughly convinced that the disaffected in that neighbourhood had renounced their rebellious designs ; from the circumstance of upwards of ten thousand pikes, and other weapons, having been delivered to General Dundas, who resided at Castlemartin, about half a mile from Kilcullen ; but on the 24th of May the garrison was informed that upwards of three hundred rebels were assembled at the Rath of Giltown, the preceding night ; and that they meant to attack the town and take General Dundas prisoner. In consequence of this intelligence patrols were sent to the avenues leading to the town, and the troops were ordered to be in readiness.

The town remained quiet till seven next morning, when General Dundas ordered forty cavalry of the 9th dragoons, the Romneys, and twenty-two of the Suffolk fencibles, to proceed to Old Kilcullen, where the rebels were assembled. Three hundred of them were strongly

entrenched in the church-yard. General Dundas, without waiting for the infantry, ordered the Romneys and the light dragoons to charge the rebels, though it was uphill, and many of them were in a road close to the church yard, in which not more than six cavalry could advance in front. They however charged with great spirit, and in this service, three times repeated, they were repulsed, with the loss of Captains Erskine and Cooks, and twenty-two privates, and ten so badly wounded that most of them died soon after.

General Dundas, defeated at Old Kilcullen, retired with his little force to the village of Kilcullen-bridge, and halted for some time ; but the rebels determined to follow up their victory ; and took a position between Kilcullen and Naas, with intent of cutting off the General and his forces from all possibility of retreating. The General then put himself at the head of twenty-seven of the Suffolk infantry, with his cavalry in the rear, and marched up to the rebels. They were drawn up in a regular line, three deep, with three stand of green colours. They began the attack ; but were completely discomfited and dispersed by three destructive discharges of musketry from the Suffolk infantry. The cavalry then charged, routed them, and killed great numbers in the pursuit.

After the engagement, General Dundas abandoned Kilcullen, and marched to Naas, for the purpose of concentrating the forces under his command as near the metropolis as possible.

Soon after the General marched from Kilcullen, the rebels plundered all the houses of the protestants in it and its vicinity, and murdered such of the inhabitants as could not make their escape.

On the 26th of May, a rebel army, which had been stationed at Knockallin and Barnhill, offered to surrender their arms to General Dundas, provided the prisoners that were taken were liberated; but he refused these terms. They then offered an unconditional surrender; but he hesitated to negotiate with them without the sanction of government. General Lake having been sent to him by Lord Camden, the two generals received their arms and their submission; yet the greater part of them joined their friends in the counties of Kildare and Wexford.

General Duff, quartered at Limerick, having heard that the insurrection was very general, inasmuch as to threaten the metropolis, and to obstruct all the roads leading to it, marched from Limerick with two six-pounders, seventy of Lord Roden's cavalry, and two hundred and fifty of the city of Dublin militia. They were joined on their route by two hundred of the South Cork militia, with their two battallion guns; and by about fifty of the 4th dragoons, and a party of yeomen. They arrived at Kildare in forty-eight hours, and then repaired to the Gibbet Rath, where the rebels were posted in a Danish fort. The General, after having disposed his army in order of battle, sent a serjeant and twelve of the cavalry to desire the rebels to surrender quietly; but they fired on the king's troops,

and killed one and wounded three; but ample vengeance was soon obtained; for above three hundred and fifty of the rebels were killed, and several wounded by the cavalry, who fell in with them pell mell; so that the artillery and infantry were unable to act without the risk of destroying their friends.

Unfortunately for this body of rebels, General Duff arrived a short time before General Wilford, who was deputed to receive their submission.

Next day General Duff marched to attack a body of rebels which were encamped at Blackmore-hill; and by a few discharges of artillery they were routed, and many of them killed; some of whom were found with the protections granted by General Dundas, in their pockets.

Near Kildare they found the bodies of poor Crawford, his grand-daughter, and of the gallant young Giffard, and whom they interred with military honours.

Mr. Williamson, a protestant clergyman of Kildare, who had fallen into the hands of the insurgents, and saved from slaughter by a Roman catholic priest, was, as having been spared by the rebels, deemed a rebel by the soldiery, who were proceeding instantly to hang him, when they were, in a critical moment, prevented by the interference of his brother-in-law, Colonel Sankey.

The disaffection of the yeomenry, in the county of Kildare was highly disgraceful. A corps under the command of Mr. Bambrick, gave up their arms. The Athy cavalry were disembodied for disaffection.

Attack on Carlow.

Of the intended surprise of Carlow, the garrison was apprised, both by an intercepted letter, and by the intelligence of Lieutenant Roe, of the North Cork militia, who had seen the peasants assembling in the evening of the 24th of May. The garrison, consisting of a body of the 9th dragoons, the light company of the North Cork militia, under Captain Heard, some of the Louth militia, under Lieutenant Ogle, the yeomen infantry of Carlow, under Captains Burton and Eulace, Sir Charles Burton's yeomen cavalry, and about forty volunteers; the whole about four hundred and fifty in number, under the command of Colonel Mahone, of the 9th dragoons, was judiciously placed at various posts for the reception of the assailants. The plan of assault was ill contrived or ill executed. Different parties were appointed to enter the town at different avenues; but only one attempted an entrance; the rest being deterred by the incessant firing of the troops. This body of rebels, amounting to a thousand or fifteen hundred, assembled at the house of Sir Edward Crosbie, a mile and a half from Carlow, marched into the town about two o'clock in the morning of the 25th of May, with so little precaution as to alarm the garrison at a quarter of a mile's distance, by the discharge of a gun, in the execution of a man who scrupled to accompany them. Shouting as they rushed into Tullow-street, with that vain confidence which is generally followed by

disappointment, that the town was their own, they received so destructive a fire from the garrison, that they recoiled and endeavoured to retreat; but finding their flight intercepted, numbers rushed into the houses, where they found a miserable exit, these being immediately set fire to by the soldiery. About eight houses were consumed in this conflagration, and for some days the roasted remains of the rebels were falling down the chimnies in which they had perished. Their loss is estimated at upwards of four hundred; while not a man was even wounded on the side of the loyalists.

After the defeat, executions commenced, as elsewhere in this calamitous period, and about two hundred were in a short time hanged or shot, according to martial law. Among the earliest victims were Sir E. W. Crosbie, and one Heydon, a yeoman. The latter is believed to have been the leader of the rebel column; to have conducted them into the town, and on their ill success to have abandoned them. He had certainly in that crisis taken his place as a yeoman, and joined in the slaughter of the assailants.

A pamphlet has since appeared, titled, "A Narrative of the Apprehension, Trial, and Execution of Sir Edward William Crosbie, Bart.; in which the Innocence of Sir Edward, and the Iniquity of the Proceedings against him are indubitably and clearly proved."

Mr. Elliot, going from Carlow, after the repulse of the rebels, to visit his house, three miles from town, saw a

number of peasants assembled in the road at the end of his avenue. He was advancing without apprehension of danger, when observing two guns levelled at him, he galloped away and escaped both shots. When he returned soon after with a body of yeomen, the peasants fled to places of concealment.

The Queen's county rebels were to have joined those of the county of Carlow, at Graigue-bridge; but having heard that there were two pieces of cannon posted there, they changed their route; and, headed by one Redmond and one Brennan, who had been a yeoman, they burned some houses, belonging to protestants, in the village of Ballyckmoiler; and attacked the house of the Rev. John Witty, a protestant clergyman, near Arles, about five miles from Carlow; but it was bravely defended by himself and eleven protestants, who kept up a constant fire, killed twenty-one rebels, and baffled all their attempts to storm or burn it. The conflict continued from three till six o'clock in the morning.

On the 30th of May, 1798, a number of rebels, headed by one Casey, a Roman catholic, attacked and burned the Charter-school at Castlecarrberry,* after having plundered all the property of Mr. Sparks, the master, which

* At twelve o'clock at night on the 6th of May, 1797, this school was attacked by a numerous band of ruffians, who broke all the windows, fired many shots into it, and attempted to force open the door, but were repulsed with the loss, it is said, of twenty men killed.

was considerable. The school had been defended by a party of fencibles, till the 24th of May, 1798 ; and when they were withdrawn, Mr. Sparks and his family were obliged to abandon it ; and the children took refuge in the bog of Allan, and in some neighbouring cabins.

On the 30th of May, a great number of rebels encamped on an island in the bog of Timahoe, and at Mucklin and Drihid ; and for some time continued to plunder the houses of protestants, and carried off all the horses and cattle they could find. Government having received intelligence of these enormities, sent General Champagne, on the 5th of June, to attack the enemy with the following forces : a detachment of the Limerick militia, commanded by Colonel Gough ; the Canal Legion, by Lieutenant Williams ; the Coolestown cavalry, by Captain Wakeley ; the Clonard cavalry, by Lieutenant Tyrrell ; and the Ballina cavalry, by captain O'Ferrall.

The General disposed the cavalry so as to surround the bog, while the infantry attacked the camp on the island. The contest lasted some time as there were but a small number of infantry ; however they at last forced the camp and dispersed the rebels ; of whom great numbers were cut off, in their flight, by the cavalry.

A detachment of the Limerick, the Coolestown, the Canal Legion, and a party of Northumberland fencibles, attacked about six hundred rebels, who were posted on Foxes-hill ; and whom they entirely routed with considerable slaughter.

Attack on Kilcock.

After the rebels had surrendered their arms to General Dundas, at Knockallin, a party of them which were encamped at Timahoe, sent Father Murphey, as their delegate to Sir Fenton Aylmer, who commanded the Donadea Cavalry, stationed at Kilcock, to assure him of their determination to surrender their arms and return to their allegiance; and to request that he would go to their camp, which he might do with the utmost safety. He therefore repaired to their camp accompanied by a friend, and escorted by two dragoons, not suspecting they had any design on his life. While conferring with the rebel chiefs his friend observed two rebels present their muskets at him from behind a hedge; on which he told the leaders that he would immediately shoot them if the assassins did not instantly desist. The chiefs then reprimanded the rebels, and assured Sir Fenton Aylmer that it was done without their knowledge. The rebel chiefs then accompanied them to a place about a mile from the camp; but they no sooner arrived there than they saw six rebels with their muskets, ready to shoot them.

In consequence of the assurances of their pacific disposition, Sir Fenton Aylmer repaired to Lord Camden, to obtain an amnesty for them, and used every exertion in his power to serve them; yet they treacherously made an

attack, with their whole force, on him and his small party at Kilcock, on the Monday following.

Sir Fenton Aylmer then fell back, and joined a small corps of yeomen infantry, commanded by Captain Jones, and determined to give them battle; but on taking his ground he found that the infantry had retreated, and all his corps, except fourteen protestants, had deserted him.

When the rebels entered Kilcock, they searched every corner and chimney: saying "that all they wanted was Sir Fenton Aylmer, Michael Aylmer his lieutenant, and all his bloody orange crew." They then burned the house of James Robinson, a constable; then the barrack; and afterwards the seat of Lieutenant Aylmer. They afterwards proceeded to burn the house of Sir Fenton Aylmer, but were diverted from doing so, by being informed that their own friends had lodged many valuable articles in it for safe custody.

Nicholas Newenham, one of Sir Fenton's videts at Kilcock, having advanced too far, was taken prisoner by the rebels, and was a witness to the destruction of his father's house, which they burnt because he was a protestant. Having led young Newenham to the camp, they compelled him to dig his own grave, and often carried him to the brink of it, and threatened to bury him alive; they also compelled him to say his prayers, and while performing his devotion they mocked his religion; at last one of them shot him and threw his body into the grave, and covered it over with earth.

About a month after, as Sir Fenton Aylmer was coming to Kilcock, with fourteen dragoons, he was way-laid near Clane, by a party of rebels. Fortunately for him, he had an advanced guard, consisting of four men, of whom they killed three, which alarmed them, and they retreated to Sallins.

Insurrections near Narraghmore.

On the 24th of May the popish inhabitants in the country near the village of Narraghmore, were in a state of insurrection; and the loyal inhabitants who could not make their escape, were obliged to remain without protection.

General Campbell sent a detachment of the Suffolk fencibles, under the command of Major Montrefor, by Glaskealy, to the assistance of the Narraghmore loyalists, whilst he went with another towards Mulloghmaft-hill.

In the morning, James Murphey with a number of rebels proceeded to attack the village; but was successfully resisted and beat off by nine loyalists, who had retired into the court house. John Jefferies, serjeant of the Narraghmore corps, having a house, with some property, which he wished to defend, imprudently led his little party into it. The routed rebels were met by one Welsh, a traiterous yeomen of the Narraghmore corps,

who brought them back to the attack. Jefferies' house being soon set on fire, the loyalists parleyed, and the rebels promised that their lives should be spared, provided they surrendered their arms; but the instant they came forth, the rebels killed three of them. The other six were reserved to be hanged in the adjoining wood. The rebels then set fire to every protestant house in the town, in doing which the women were particularly active.

Lieutenant Eadie, of the Tyrone militia, who had been stationed at Ballymore, was ordered on the 24th of May, to join his company at Calverstown; but did not arrive at Narraghmore in time to save the lives of the loyalists. He had not proceeded far with his party, when he heard the shouts of the rebels, as they conveyed their victims for execution. He then placed his men behind a wall and when they came within a few yards of him, he fired a volley, which brought a number of them to the ground. They then fled, leaving all their prisoners, except two, behind them.

After Lieutenant Eadie had defeated them, they retreated to Ballymore, where they gained a reinforcement of some thousands; then, headed by Redmond Murphey and Malachy Delaney, they broke into a house where Lieutenant Yeates was prisoner, and murdered him in a cruel manner. They then murdered a poor soldier, and put to death several sick soldiers of the Suffolk fencibles, hanging some of them out of their windows. They also took prisoners two ladies, wives of the Suffolk officers.

Major Montrefor having proceeded with his detachment to Glassealy, a party of rebels, under the command of Paddy Dowling, who were on their way to burn the mansion house there, fled at his approach. The major then marched to Narraghmore, but found nothing there but the wretched victims of savage fury. He then proceeded to Redgap-hill, while Captain Rudd flanked him through the woods of Narraghmore; and having been joined by Lieutenant Eadie, they followed the route which Major Montrefor had taken.

Near the turnpike they were attacked by about three thousand rebels from Narraghmore, on whom they kept up a brisk fire; which brought the major and his party to their assistance. The rebels having perceived his approach, placed a number of wool packs on carts, which happened to be passing by, and some of their best marksmen behind them, who fired and killed some of the Suffolk fencibles, and then retreated to their main body. But the major pursued and killed two hundred of them, and wounded near as many more.

The principal object of the rebels in that part of the county of Kildare, was to join those of the Queen's county, and to have assisted in taking possession of the town of Carlow. Notwithstanding their different defeats, they collected a large party and were proceeding to accomplish their original plan; but in passing through Castledermot they were attacked by a small party of the 6th

regiment, commanded by Captain Mince, who routed and killed many of them. A troop of yeomen cavalry then pursued them and took many prisoners.

General Campbell, being informed that the rebels were in great force in Ballytore, ordered the troops from Carlow and Baltinglass to march to one side of the town; and he purposed to arrive at the same time, on the other side of it; but the person who undertook to be his guide, led him by the woods of Narraghmore. When the general entered Ballytore, he found it deserted by every male, except one Johnson; and as some of the soldiers had seen him, at different times, commanding the rebels, he was immediately shot.

The rebels, finding that they were unsuccessful, offered to surrender their arms to General Campbell; and he having assented to the terms, about three hundred gave up pikes and other weapons at Ballindrum; and great numbers went to Athy, and obtained protections.

In about ten days General Dundas ordered the troops at Athy to march to Kilcullen, and reinforce him there; and the town was evacuated by the military, the yeomen, and all the loyalists who could accompany them. When they had marched a few miles from the town, they received an order for the yeomanry to return to defend the town. They then returned, with the loyalists, and arrived at Athy about twelve o'clock at night, and concluded that the rebels were in possession of it; but though they had been waiting for some nights before, they were afraid to

enter, suspecting the general meant to attack them as soon as they had got possession of it. The next night the rebels appeared in great force, but they fled from a patrol who had been sent to reconnoitre.

Attempt to poison the garrison at Rathcoole.

On the 22d of June, Captain Hewan of the Angushire regiment marched from Tallagh to Hazel Hatch, with twenty of his men, to reinforce a party there; and having halted at Rathcoole, the head quarters of his regiment, to refresh them, some of them soon after appeared to be very ill. They had eaten some bread and milk, and were immediately seized with vomiting and griping accompanied with a head ache. These symptoms excited the suspicion of their surgeon, that the bread had been poisoned; and the baker and his man were ordered to be taken into custody, and compelled to eat some of the bread. They then gave some of the bread to a dog and a cat, and they died of it. Colonel Hunter, who commanded there, then ordered the baker and his man to be shot. The men of both parties, by this time, were all taken ill, with the same symptoms; many of whom would have died but that they were relieved by medical assistance. Some of them were seized with such strong convulsions that two or three men could but with difficulty hold them.

The Rev. Mr. Robinson, his wife, and seven children, who were passing through Rathcoole, were affected in the

same manner, in consequence of having eaten some of the bread; but by applying proper medicine they were all restored.

It afterwards appeared that the rebels intended to surprise the garrison, when debilitated with poison; for this purpose great numbers had assembled in the adjacent fields; but dispersed when reinforcements came from Dublin, Tallagh, and Hazel-hatch.

On searching the baker's house, a small quantity of yellow arsenick was found in the bake-house.

Attack on Maynooth.

A party of the Carton cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Cane, had been stationed at Maynooth, for some time; some of whom were constantly in the avenues leading to the town. Early in the morning of the 24th of June, one of the centinels was fired at by two rebels, who pretended to be travellers; on which he galloped in full speed to the guard-room, and alarmed his fellow soldiers; and was immediately pursued by about three hundred rebels, armed with muskets, pikes, and other weapons; but such was the disaffection of the corps, that only seven of them mounted their horses to meet the enemy, though they were alarmed in time. They were therefore under the necessity of retreating, lest they should be overpowered by the great superiority of numbers.

Lieutenant Cane made his escape, but a young gentleman of the name of Nugent, was taken and shot the next day at their camp. They also took eleven yeomen prisoners; some of whom returned soon after and the rest joined the rebels.

Lieutenant Cane, and the remainder of the detachment then joined the yeomenry at Leixlip; and continued to do duty there.

A few days after a party of them re-entered the town and seized Mr. Wilkinson, a protestant, whom they piked the next day. They also plundered some houses, and conveyed the booty to their camp.

Mr. Brown of Barropstown, near Maynooth, and his son were attacked by some ruffians whilst viewing the hay-makers in his fields. He was fortunate enough to make his escape and alarm his family, who immediately retired towards Leixlip; but they murdered his son with savage barbarity.

Battle of Ouitstown.

Notwithstanding the royal mercy having been granted to the rebels in the county of Kildare, in consideration of their returning to their allegiance, they continued to encamp and commit murders and depredations in large bodies. Lieutenant-colonel Irwin, who commanded the garrison at Trim, being informed that a numerous bod-

of rebels had assembled near Kilcock, marched on the 18th of June, with the 4th dragoons, a troop of fencible cavalry, four companies of foot, with two battalion guns, and three troops of yeomen cavalry. Soon after he passed through Kilcock, his advanced guard was fired on by a body of rebels; of whom the main body, consisting of three thousand, was drawn up in a line at the bottom of Oviotstown hill. Owing to the unevenness of the ground and the inclosures upon it, it was some time before the colonel could form, during which the rebels kept up a smart fire, and made a desperate attempt to seize the cannon; but the well directed fire of the infantry made them abandon that enterprise. Soon after the troops formed, they entirely routed the rebels, who fled to a neighbouring bog, leaving about two hundred killed and wounded. William Aylmer, who had been a lieutenant in the Kildare militia, was the leader of the rebels.

In this action we had ten killed and eighteen wounded, amongst whom were some officers.

Battle of Tarah.

On the evening of the 26th of May, about four thousand rebels assembled, and hoisted a white flag on the hill of Tarah, situate about eighteen miles northward of Dublin. On the top of the hill is the church yard, surrounded by three Danish forts, which are well adapted for defence against an attacking foe; and which the rebels

considered as impregnable. Parties of them had, for some time, been plundering the houses in the adjacent country, and carrying off all kinds of provisions. In consequence of these enormities, three companies of the regiment of Reay fencibles, with a field piece of artillery, under the command of Captain Mc. Lean ; Lord Fingal's troop of yeoman cavalry ; those of Captain Preston and Lower-Kells ; and Captain Molly's company of yeoman infantry, in all about four hundred, took their positions, and proceeded to attack them, at the time when they had lighted near forty fires to cook their victuals. As soon as the rebels perceived them advancing, they put their hats on the tops of their pikes, sent forth some dreadful yells, and at the same time began to jump and put themselves into various attitudes, as if bidding defiance to their adversaries. The rebels then began to advance, firing at the same time, but in an irregular manner.

Our infantry advanced with the greatest coolness, and did not fire until they were within fifty yards of them. One part of the cavalry were ordered to the right, under Lord Fingal, the other to the left, to prevent our line from being outflanked. The rebels made three desperate onsets, and in the last laid hold of the cannon ; but the officer who commanded the gun, having laid the match to it, prostrated ten or twelve of them, and dispersed the remainder. The Reay fencibles preserved their line, and fired with the greatest steadiness. They at length routed the rebels, who fled in all directions, after having lost in

killed and wounded, upwards of three hundred and fifty, together with their leader, in his uniform. In their flight they threw away their arms and ammunition, and every thing that could incumber them.

We took three hundred horses, and all their provisions, arms, ammunition, and baggage, and eight of the Reay fencibles, whom they had taken prisoners two days before, and whom they employed to drill them.

The Reay fencibles lost twenty-six men in killed and wounded; and the Upper Kells infantry had one killed and five wounded.

Scapulars were found on the bodies of many of the rebels who were slain, and popish prayer books, beads, rosaries, crucifixes, and republican songs were found in their pockets.

The king's troops purposed remaining in the field all night, but found they had no cartridges left, either for the gun or small arms. The prisoners, of whom they took a great many, informed our officers, that their intention was to have proceeded that night to plunder Nivan and Kells, where there was a quantity of ammunition, and little or no force to protect it; and that when they had succeeded, they expected to have been joined by a great number of insurgents from Meath, Westmeath, Louth, Monagan, and Cavan; and to have released all the prisoners confined in Trim. The plan of this general insurrection was happily frustrated by the success of our forces on the hill of Tarah.

Some of the rebels who escaped our troops, retired to the bogs of Meath and Kildare, where they continued for three weeks to plunder and desolate the surrounding country.

During a great part of this time, the city of Dublin experienced a kind of blockade, the communications by land being cut off by the rebels: no mail coaches having been permitted to proceed from the 24th to the 31st of May. The utmost vigilance was used to check the spirit of disaffection which was so strongly manifested by great numbers of the lower class of the inhabitants. Four new regiments of yeomanry were raised and disciplined in a short time. The castle was put into the best state of defence; all the avenues were strictly guarded, and the Lord Mayor issued a proclamation, requesting every person to keep within doors after sun-set. The disaffected yeomanry corps were disbanded; rebel committees were discovered sitting in deliberation, and a great number of blacksmiths were detected in the act of manufacturing pikes.

The centinels were frequently fired at by the disaffected, and two soldiers who were conducting a rebel to prison, were fired at and knocked down at noon day, by two rebels; one of whom was taken up, tried, and executed on the 29th of May.

On the 25th of May a detachment of the Merchant's corps escorted four waggons, loaden with ammunition, to Naas, and on their return, ten or twelve rebels came out of a wood near Johnstown, as if to attack them; but as soon as the officer drew up his men and fired a few shots at them, they retreated into the wood again. It afterwards appeared that there were a great number of rebels in the wood, ready to cut this detachment off, Had they pursued those who came out, under a pretence of attacking them.

The Lord Mayor's servant acknowledged that he was at the head of a numerous body of servants, who were to have assassinated their masters; and that he and his party were to have murdered the Lord Mayor, and his family, together with two of his servants, who would not join them; and that this shocking deed was to have been the signal to all the other servants to rise and commit similar assassinations.

As the disaffected in the city were disappointed of raising an insurrection there, great numbers repaired into the country and joined the encampments there: particularly about the middle of June, a great many persons of different descriptions, suddenly disappeared in Dublin, and the neighbourhood of Blackrock.

On the 4th of June, 1798, Lord Edward Fitzgerald died in Newgate. During his confinement he often enquired of the gaoler, of the state of the city, and the kingdom in general.

County of Wicklow.

Previous to the breaking out of the rebellion in the county of Wicklow, the magistrates met and used every means in their power to bring the lower class of people to a sense of their duty ; but all they could do produced no effect ; the greater part of them had imbibed such strong republican principles, that neither threats nor rewards could induce them to abandon the cause in which they were united.

The oath of allegiance was not considered, by the Roman catholics, as binding, Captain King, of Rathdrum, therefore proposed to the Cronebane corps of yeomen, the following test oath :

I do in the presence of my neighbours, solemnly swear, by the contents of this book, containing the holy gospel of Christ, that I have not joined, nor in any manner entered into, any society, or association of persons, styling themselves United Irishmen, or any other seditious society or association whatsoever, or taken any oath to keep the secrets of any such society : and that I will not join, nor enter into, any such society, or take any oath to the prejudice of his Majesty King George III. or contrary to the existing laws, or constitution of this kingdom of Ireland. And all this I swear, freely and

voluntarily, without any mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever.

“So help me God.”

But forty-four of that corps refused to take the oath, and were therefore immediately dismissed. This oath was then proposed by the officers of many other corps in the counties of Wicklow, Wexford, and Dublin ; and it produced universally the same effect, as almost all the popish yeomen refused to take it, and were dismissed. By this means the yeomanry corps, in general, were purged of a great many traitors, who only joined them, in order to get disciplined, that they might be better enabled to assist in the subversion of the government.

Some months before the rebellion broke out, the priests strongly recommended sobriety, to prevent the rebels from betraying their secrets, which had such an immediate and universal effect, that the whiskey houses were deserted, and they abstained from quarreling and seditious assemblies.

Early in the rebellion two men were found in arms near Glenmalier. One of whom was condemned to die; but it appeared that he had saved the life of a loyalist, and he was pardoned at the intercession of two active magistrates.

Great numbers of rebels assembled near Stratford upon Slaney, and having determined to attack that town, they marched into it for that purpose, but was completely repulsed by thirty of the Antrim militia, commanded by

Lieutenant Macaulay; twenty of the 9th dragoons, by Cornet Love; and a detachment of Captain Stratford's corps. It is said that near one hundred and fifty rebels were killed and wounded in this action.

Mrs. Saunders remained in her house at Saunders-grove during the rebellion; and, assisted by a few yeomen, she bid defiance to many bands of traitors who attempted to enter her house. Many loyal protestants whose houses and property had been destroyed in the adjacent country, and who narrowly escaped with their lives, repaired to her house for safety, where they were hospitably received.

Attack on Newtown-mount-Kennedy.

The country round this place was in such a disturbed state, that the loyalists could not remain in their houses, without the greatest danger; the yeomen of the district were therefore ordered into garrison at Newtown-mount-kennedy.

On the 29th of May, a party of the Antient British cavalry, and a few of the Newtown-mount-kennedy cavalry, attacked and cut off a party of rebels near Roundwood. Soon after they were informed that the rebels had begun to burn the house of Mr. Hugo, at Drummeen, who was lieutenant of the Wicklow cavalry; they arrived in time to save the dwelling house, but found the out-

buildings in flames. They then attacked and routed the rebels with great slaughter, and laid waste the village of Clohogue, in which they took refuge.

On the same day two dragoons were sent from Dublin, with an express to Lord Rossmore, at Newtown-mount-kennedy, who was to forward it to Wicklow. A short distance from the former place, the rebels fired on them from behind the hedges, and killed the dragoon who carried the express; yet the other dismounted and took the express out of his pocket, and delivered it to Lord Rossmore.

About this time great numbers of rebels were seen on the mountains near Newtown-mount-kennedy, the inhabitants of which place were in the greatest consternation.

Early in the morning of the 30th of May, near eight hundred rebels descended from the mountains and entered the village. They first set fire to the stable of the Antient Britons; but fortunately the horses had been removed the day before; and then to several houses.

As soon as the garrison, (consisting of forty Antient Britons, twenty of the Antrim militia, forty of the Newtown-mount-kennedy cavalry, and forty men who had only received their arms the day before,) were alarmed, they immediately assembled, and proceeded to attack the rebels. On the first onset, Captain Burgany, of the Antient Britons was killed. Captain Gore, of the cavalry, was dismounted, and received some pike wounds. Mr. Archer, of the same corps, was wounded and his horse

was killed; and several of the yeomen and Antient Britons received slight wounds. Notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances they renewed the attack, and succeeded in routing the rebels with considerable slaughter, who then fled in all directions. The cavalry pursued them for a great distance, and killed many of them. In their flight they dropped a great many pikes, which fell into the hands of the victors.

Lieutenant Ferguson, of the Antrim militia, attacked and dispersed a band of rebels, who were to have assisted in the attack on the village; but who were too late; yet they assisted in covering the retreat of the routed rebels.

Flott, the famous rebel chieftain, who commanded at the attack on Mr. Hugo's house, was to have assisted in the attack on the village, with five hundred men; but did not arrive before the main body was defeated.



For some months after the rebellion was said to be extinguished in the county of Wicklow, the rebels continued to commit the most shocking atrocities, plundering and burning the houses of protestants, and murdering their inmates; though there were three camps stationed in the county, to prevent such atrocities. In the parish of Donoughmore, twenty protestant houses were burnt, and the inhabitants obliged to repair to Tullow and Dunlavin for protection; without being able to carry any thing with them, except the cloaths they had on.

All the protestant houses from Baltinglass to Hacketstown, from there to Rathdrum, and from there to Blessington, were burnt by the rebels ; they also burnt a great number of houses in the road between Rathvilly and Hacketstown : yet the general officers refused to assist the magistrates, with troops to prevent a continuance of such atrocious outrages.

Two yeomen seized a man who had been riding between Arklow and Rathdrum, whom they conducted to the latter place, to be examined by the commanding officer there ; but he would give no account of himself. A recruiting officer recognised the prisoner, and told Captain Giffard, that his name was Martin, a priest, of Drogheda ; and that he was a rebel leader. Captain Giffard then told him that if he hesitated to make a full confession, he should be immediately put to death.

He then begged to be taken into a private room, and on being taken into one, he made the following confession upon oath, and afterwards signed it :

“ That his name was Martin, that he had been a friar of Drogheda, and that he was early an United Irishman, and very active in the cause : that he preached up the massacre of protestants at Dunboyne, which afterwards took place : that he was intimate with Father Ledwich, priest of Rathfarnham, whose nephew (Ledwich) and Wade, he excited to rebellion, in consequence of which they were both hanged on Queen’s bridge : that he was now come down to promote the cause, and was in search

of Byrne and Holt, who were at the head of a large body of rebels in the mountains between Rathdrum and Hacketstown: that he had slept the preceding night at the house of a priest in Roundwood." He also said, "That there was a club of traitors sitting at that time in Dublin, and another in Drogheda: that a large sum had been levied on the Roman catholics in general, both clergy and laity, every person paying according to his wealth: and that the money so levied, was to be applied to the purchase of arms and ammunition."

The popish children in the county of Wicklow wore red tape round their necks, in order that they might be distinguished from those belonging to the protestants, in the general massacre of the latter, which was intended to take place.

In the month of October, 1798, Mr. Hume, member for the county of Wicklow, and captain of a corps of yeomen, was murdered by a party of rebels, whilst they were retreating from the king's troops. Captain Hume, having mistaken the rebels for a party of yeomen, he advanced near them, and said "Is there not enough to mind that position?" On which one of the rebels asked him who he was? to which he answered, "Captain of a corps of cavalry." he then raised his firelock, but missed fire at him; on which another, of the name of Moore, shot Captain Hume, mounted his horse, and rode off.

County of Wexford.

For five years previous to the year 1797, the county of Wexford was noted for the peaceable disposition of its inhabitants; at the same time the adjacent counties were infested by numerous bands of traitors, who were spreading the seeds of sedition amongst the inhabitants; and who committed all kinds of robbery, assaults, and assassination; but in the beginning of the year 1798, the minds of the people began to exhibit signs of their being infected with those baneful principles, which afterwards proved fatal to themselves, and very destructive to the kingdom in general. Seditious clubs were formed, throughout the whole county; blacksmiths were employed to manufacture pikes and other weapons privately, many of whom were detected whilst at work, and severely punished; and the lower class began to refuse to pay their debts, or to fulfil any engagements they had made. They were also observed to stay longer at public houses, fairs, and markets, for the purpose of seditious assemblies. When the symptoms of disaffection and rebellion began to be so very alarming a number of magistrates assembled at Enniscorthy, and agreed that the whole county should be proclaimed, that the civil magistrates might be thereby empowered to act with additional energy under the insurrection law; which accordingly took place in the month of April, 1798.

The Roman catholic priests finding that the progress of their rebellious designs would be considerably impeded by those measures, offered, together with their respective parishioners, to take the oath of allegiance, and requested the magistrates to attend them at their chapels, for that purpose ; which being agreed to, they all took the following oath of allegiance, at their respective altars :

“ I do sincerely promise and swear, upon the Holy Evangelists, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his Majesty King George the third, and to the succession of his illustrious family to the throne. That I will, to the utmost of my power, support the constitution, as by law established. That I will use every possible exertion to prevent and suppress all tumult, riot, or secret conspiracy. That I am not an united Irishman, and that I never will take the oaths of the united men. That I will give up all kinds of fire arms, or offensive or defensive weapons, in my possession ; and that I will inform against any man keeping arms without being registered. All the above I most solemnly swear, in the presence of the Almighty, and as I hope to be saved, through the merits and mediation of my blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, without any equivocation or mental reservation whatsoever. So help me God.”

Protections were after this time granted to every person who would take the oath and surrender their arms. At Wexford great numbers repaired to the magistrates, and obtained protections.

Notwithstanding these testimonies of loyalty, there was every reason to believe that they meant to unite in the general insurrection ; which was afterwards proved, as many protections were found in the pockets of these deluded wretches when they were killed in the different engagements.

By these professions of attachment to loyalty, the government was prevented from adopting such vigorous measures and precautions as were necessary to prevent the execution of their horrid designs. When the rebellion broke out, there was no troops in the county of Wexford, but about three hundred of the North Cork militia ; three companies of which were at Wexford, and the remainder were stationed at Enniscorthy, Ferns, and Gorey.

The Irish Directory intended that the insurrection should take place all over the kingdom at the same time ; but the arrest of some of the leaders, disconcerted their scheme, and it was not determined on till a short time before it took place in the vicinity of Dublin. The Wexford leaders was not informed of it until the 25th of May ; and as it took some time to make the necessary arrangements, the general insurrection did not take place in that county until the 27th of May ; but Father John Murphy of Boolavogue chapel, in the parish of Kilcormick, began his military career at six o'clock on Saturday evening the 26th of May.

The first outrage he committed, was an attack on the house of Mrs. Piper, widow, of Tincurry, four miles from Enniscorthy; where they murdered her son-in-law, a man of the name of Candy, and wounded her in several places. While they were thus engaged, Mrs. Piper's daughter made her escape out of a window, in the second story, and having mounted a horse, she galloped off and informed the garrison at Enniscorthy of this outrage. Captains Grogan and Richards, of the Healthfield and Enniscorthy yeoman cavalry, immediately assembled their troops, and proceeded to Tincurry, where they arrived about eleven o'clock in the evening, and found all the circumstances of atrocity related by the poor female fugitive to be strictly true; and they were also informed by her mother, that the principal assassins concerned in this affair, were two Roman catholics, of the name of Boulger and Fitzpatrick; who were her near neighbours, and with whom she had always been friendly.

When the rebels discovered that the daughter had made her escape, and was proceeding towards Enniscorthy, they marched off without doing further mischief; and on the arrival of the cavalry, no person could inform them whither they were gone: and as they were not apprehensive that the rebels would return to Tincurry that night, the troops marched back to Enniscorthy.

Soon after their arrival there, they were informed that a large band of rebels had attacked Mr. Webster's house

at Garrybritt, about five miles off, and that they had set it on fire. The cavalry then set out a second time in pursuit of the rebels; and on their arrival at Garrybritt, they found the house in flames, without a possibility of extinguishing it. In an orchard near the house they found Mr. Webster's two daughters sitting in their shifts, they having narrowly escaped out of the house after the rebels set fire to it.

The officers of the cavalry saw a number of houses in a state of conflagration, which they supposed to have been set on fire by the rebels; and having received undoubted information that Father Murphey was at the head of them, they repaired to his house, and discovered that he had, previous to his assembling the rebels, concealed the most part of his valuable furniture, and other articles, in a pit in an adjacent field. They therefore set fire to his house, and destroyed what they found in the pit, in retaliation for the atrocities he had committed.

In their march that night they overtook some rebels in arms, whom they immediately put to death. They also set fire to several houses, the owners of which were known to be at that time, under arms against government.

Father Murphey, with the rebels under his command, attacked the Camolin yeoman cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Bookey, at a place called the Harrow, and killed the Lieutenant and one of the privates, on which the others were obliged to retreat. The rebels then proceeded to Lieutenant Bookey's house and set it on fire.

When Lieutenant Bookey set out with his troop, he left a guard in his house, consisting of five Roman catholic servants, and two protestants. Between twelve and one o'clock in the morning, about five hundred rebels, headed by Father Murphey, surrounded his house, on which the five catholics deserted, and the two protestants were left alone, with four guns to defend the house. The rebels called to them to deliver up their arms, and they should not be injured; but the protestants did not put much confidence in their promises, and immediately discharged the four guns at them; and continued to load and fire as smart as possible, for a considerable time. The rebels, incensed at the spirited conduct of the protestants, threw stones at the windows, fired into them with their muskets, and did much damaged to the house, but could not hurt the besieged. Some of the assailants had been killed, by the fire of the protestants, for others were heard to say, "We had better retreat before more of us are killed." At last they broke open the front door with a sledge, and having entered the house, they got lights and assembled in the hall; on which the two protestants ceased firing, and placed themselves at the head of the stair case, with their muskets, to prevent their foes from ascending. Father Murphy ordered some of his men to go up stairs, and see who the persons were that opposed him; but they hesitated to obey his commands: on which he drew his sword, and threatened them with instant death. At last two of

them attempted to go up, but were shot, before they proceeded far, and tumbled down among their comrades. The rebels finding it impossible to overpower the protestants, or to induce them to surrender, at last determined on setting fire to the house; and yet the besieged continued to charge and fire, till the floor began to crack under them; on which they repaired to the upper story; but the smoke and flames soon reached them there. They then ceased firing, and the rebels imagined they were suffocated, and that they had obtained ample revenge; and fearing that the dawn would expose them to the Enniscorthy yeomanry, who had been scouring the country all that night, they retreated, by which the lives of these two brave men were preserved,

- Father Murphey, and his band, also burned a great many houses in the parish of Kilcormick, and murdered all the loyal inhabitants he could meet with.

- A party of rebels, between four and five hundred in number, attacked the house of the reverend Doctor Burrows, at Kyle, in which were himself and his family, and some protestant parishioners, who had taken refuge there, dreading the sanguinary rage of the rebels. Doctor Burrows had barricaded the lower part of his house, and when the rebels attacked it, he defended it for some time, many shots having been fired between the assailants and the besieged. At last, the rebels set fire to the out-buildings, which were soon consumed; and soon after to the dwelling house. The besieged being in danger of suf-

location, and perceiving that further resistance would be vain, resolved to quit the house, at the peril of their lives ; and Murphey assured them that they should not be injured if they would surrender. Depending on his promise, they quitted the house, on which the rebels murdered Doctor Burrowes and seven of his parishioners ; and gave his son, a youth of sixteen years, so severe a wound in the belly, that for some time he lay motionless and apparently dead. Mrs. Burrowes, her four children, and Miss Cliffard were not hurt, and they continued to weep over the mangled bodies of her husband and his parishioners, and to console and administer relief to her son, who was in the most excruciating pain, and bleeding so copiously that every moment she expected his dissolution. In the evening they repaired to an inn at Oulart, about half a mile off, with her son, who was carried on a door ; where they remained till the 29th of May. They were then escorted to Castlennesley, the seat of Mr. Cliffard, where they were kept prisoners, till the town of Wexford was taken from the rebels. The son languished and died of that wound in the year 1809.

During the time that the house was in flames, Thomas Foxton, one of the protestants who were in the house, concealed himself in an oven, to escape the rebels, and he remained there till their departure. By skulking in places of concealment, he evaded the rebels till after the king's troops got possession of Wexford ; when he, attended by

his wife and three children, was met between Inch and Gorey, by a party of rebels, who put him to death. His wife carried his body to the church of Inch, about two miles off, to be buried.

Great numbers of pikes were surrendered to Mr. Dawson, of Charles-fort, but he had such strong doubts of their sincerity, that he kept some protestants, well armed, for the protection of his house, every night, and dismissed them in the mornings. On Sunday the 27th of May, after he had dismissed his guards, and while he was preparing to attend his wife and children and Miss Reade, to church, a man came and informed him that a large body of rebels had burned a great many houses, and were committing various acts of enormity; he also said that the rebels were determined to compel Mr. Dawson to join them; and that they would murder him and his family if he refused to comply. Mr. Dawson immediately sent a person to collect his guards, but only one of them could be found. Soon after he arrived, the house was surrounded by upwards of eight hundred rebels, who set fire to it, and the out-buildings, which were soon in flames. Mrs. Dawson, her daughter, and Miss Reade made their escape out of a window; and Mr. Dawson fled into the hall, as it was the most defensible part of the house: soon after the rebels broke in the front door, and he received a musket ball in his breast. Mr. Dawson could have shot the man who fired at him; but perceiving his family in their hands, he feared they would fall a prey to their savage

fury. He then fled into his lawn, where he was surrounded by a great number of them, some of whom were proceeding to assassinate him, but were prevented by others, who said it would answer their purpose better to make him their commander. He then shewed them his wound, which was bleeding, and assured them that it would soon occasion his death, on which they left him. Mr. Dawson then went to a tenant's house, and his son arrived there soon after; where they procured horses and repaired to the town of Ferns, two miles off, and in their way thither they saw houses on fire in every direction. Mrs. Dawson and her family repaired to Newtownbarry, five miles off, and placed themselves under the protection of the yeomanry of that town, who escorted them, the next day, to Enniscorthy.

The protestant who was in the house with Mr. Dawson, was murdered that morning by one Murphey, his neighbour.

The loyal inhabitants of the town of Ferns, alarmed at such atrocities, and suspecting that the town would be attacked by the rebels, packed up all the valuable articles they could, and concealed them. Soon after which they retreated to Enniscorthy, under the protection of the Scarawalh yeomanry, commanded by Captain Cornock, and a detachment of the North Cork militia; and Mr. Dawson and his son joined them.

As soon as the military and loyal inhabitants had left the town, the rebels entered it, and plundered and de-

stroyed all their houses. Even the Bishop's palace was plundered of every valuable article in it, by some workmen, to whom the bishop had been particularly kind ; and it would have been destroyed, had not Father Murphey wished to preserve it for himself.

On the same day the house of Mr. White, (who was Captain of the Ballakeen cavalry) at Peppards castle, was attacked and destroyed, by some of his own tenants and neighbours, who had previously surrendered a great many pikes to him, and had taken the oath of allegiance as a proof of their sincerity.

Captain White had assembled his corps of cavalry, at Gorey, on the 26th of May, which was very fortunate, as the rebels meant to cut them off in their own houses, that night.

In the parish of Camolin several hundred pikes were surrendered to the magistrates, and the rebels continued to take oaths of allegiance till the 26th of May ; yet on the day following they rose in mass, armed with pikes and other weapons, and vowed vengeance against the protestants ; they then proceeded to plunder and destroy their property, and to kill some and take others prisoners. The Reverend Mr. Owen, the minister of the parish, was taken prisoner near Gorey, where he was confined ten days, and stripped of his cloaths ; for which they gave him some ragged garments, and sent him barefooted to Wexford gaol, with some other prisoners.

In the morning of the 27th of May, Captain White was informed that the rebels had risen in great numbers, and that they were committing horrid outrages; he immediately proceeded to the place where they had assembled, with his own corps, and that of Lord Courtown's, in all about eighty men, and found that they had left several houses in a state of conflagration; and some straggling rebels, whom he ordered to be shot. He then pursued the rebels, who had set fire to several houses in their road, to within six miles of Wexford, in hopes of being able to engage them; but as soon as the rebels perceived the cavalry, they faced about to give them battle; at the same time a party of them formed at each side of the road, in order to surround them. And as the cavalry were enclosed in a narrow road, where they could not act, and the rebels being upwards of two thousand strong, Captain White thought it most prudent to retreat.

Captain White made many attempts to go to his own house; but as all the avenues leading to it were filled with rebels, he retreated to Gorey, and had many narrow escapes in doing so.

Mr. Serjeant Stanley arrived at Gorey, from Dublin, on Saturday the 26th of May, in his way to Cork, where he was to hold a special commission. Captain White sent six of his yeomen cavalry to escort him as far as Enniscorthy. Two of them stopped, on their return, at their own houses, where they were murdered. The sister of one of them, hearing that her brother had fallen into the

hands of the rebels, fled to his assistance; but they barbarously murdered her. There were some hopes of recovery in the other, but the rebels returned in a few days, and butchered him with savage brutality.

On the morning of the 27th of May, the town of Wexford was alarmed by the arrival of Edward Turner, Esq. who informed the commanding officer of the garrison, that his house had been attacked by a large body of insurgents, who had seized the pikes which they had surrendered to him a few days before, after having taken oaths of allegiance, and that they were assembling in great numbers. A detachment of Captain Boyd's yeoman cavalry were therefore ordered out to scour the country.

Battle of Oulart.

As great numbers of loyalists had taken refuge in the town of Oulart, Father Murphey determined to attack the town; for this purpose he assembled the rebels on the hill of Oulart; but before he proceeded, a detachment of one hundred and ten chosen men of the North Cork militia, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Foote, marched from Wexford to attack the rebels on the southern side of the hill. They had not proceeded far, before exaggerated accounts of the atrocities which the rebels had committed, as have been related, reached Wexford; which threw the inhabitants into the greatest anxiety for

the fate of the brave men who marched to oppose them, as the greatest part of them were married, and had families. In their march to the hill they were joined by a small detachment of yeoman cavalry; and when they arrived, found the rebels in the position described to them; and determined to attack them, however hazardous it might be. On the first onset the rebels fled, and were pursued by the militia, who were much interrupted by the inclosures on the side of the hill, and who were so little apprehensive of resistance, that no rank or order was observed. While the rebels were making their escape with precipitation to the northern side of the hill, they were admonished that a large body of cavalry had been seen that morning advancing against them in the opposite direction, apparently with a design to intercept their flight, or to co-operate with the militia in a double attack. As the Wexfordian insurgents as yet were totally unacquainted with warfare, the onset of the cavalry was in the imaginations of many among them, more terrible than that of infantry. They therefore ignorantly supposing the cavalry to be still in their neighbourhood, while Father Murphey exclaimed that they must either conquer or perish, turned against the militia, who were now arrived near the summit, almost breathless; and charging them with their pikes, killed almost in an instant, the whole of the detachment, except the lieutenant-colonel, a serjeant, and three privates. If we may believe the accounts of some of the insurgents engaged in this butchery, no more than about three hundred

of their number ventured to make this furious attack, of whom only six were armed with firelocks, the rest carrying pikes, with which they made so sudden and close an assault, that only three of them were killed and six wounded, by the disordered soldiery. The body of cavalry, who terrified the rebels into this feat of courage, was the two troops under Captain White, who pursued the rebels to within six miles of Wexford, and then retreated to Gorey, as before related.

Lieutenant Ware, nephew to Lieutenant-colonel Foote, was on the point of making his escape on horseback, when a boy, who had been wounded, called out to him, and implored him to save his life; on which the lieutenant stopped his horse, and endeavoured to raise the boy on his saddle; but before he accomplished his benevolent design; he was dragged from his horse by a rebel, and butchered.

About four o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Percival, the high-sheriff, rode into Wexford, with the melancholy account of the total defeat and destruction of the detachment; and soon after Lieutenant-colonel Foote, and one serjeant, were seen pensive riding over the bridge, and approaching the town: and now the silence of that awful morning was succeeded by a truly heart-rending scene: as soon as their fate was known, the widows and orphans of those who had fallen, ran into the streets, filling the air with their cries, and piercing every soul with shrieks of anguish and dismay.

Lieutenant-colonel Foote gave the following account of the battle: " I marched to a hill called Oulart, where between four and five thousand rebels were posted. From their great superiority of numbers, it was not my intention to have attacked them, unless some unforeseen favourable circumstance would warrant that measure; however, my officers were of a contrary opinion. I met here part of a yeoman cavalry corps, about sixteen; the remainder, with their serjeant, having that morning deserted and joined the rebels. I halted with this corps, while I sent a note by their trumpeter to Wexford, with orders for two officers and forty men to march from thence to us, to support our detachment; apprehending that the rebels, from their numbers, might intercept our retreat. Afterwards, when I joined the party, I found that they were moved forward by the officer next in command; and the soldiers cried out, that they would beat the rebels out of the field. By this movement we were immediately engaged with the rebels, who fired from behind the hedges, without shewing any regular front. We beat their advanced party from one hedge to another, which they had successively occupied, and fired from on us, killing great numbers of them, till they retreated in much disorder to the main body, which consisted mostly of pikemen. I considered this a favourable opportunity of forming the detachment, for the purpose of retreating, or of receiving the enemy in a good position; and I used every exertion to effect it; but,

unfortunately, the too great ardour of the men and officers could not be restrained. They rushed forward, were furrounded, and overpowered by numbers. They displayed great valour and intrepidity, and killed a great number of the rebels. Of this detachment, none have as yet returned to Wexford, but myself, a serjeant, and three privates. I received a wound from a pike in my breast, a slight one in my arm, and several bruises and contusions."

By this victory the rebels were put into possession of the arms, cloathing, and ammunition belonging to the soldiers whom they had slaughtered, and with which they afterwards made a conspicuous figure; and were rendered bold and desperate; as, previous to this time, the king's troops were considered invincible, by the rebels, however small their numbers might have been.

All the night after this action, the rebels continued to burn the houses and destroy the property of the loyalists, and to murder such of them as had, at any time, incurred their displeasure.

The day after orders were issued by Father John Murphy, and dispersed all over the country contiguous to Oulart, commanding all persons capable of bearing arms, to join his army immediately; for the purpose of attacking Enniscorthy. And at the same time, orders were given for the old men to bury the dead. Two men employed in this service, found some remains of life in one of the Cork soldiers, and one of them conveyed him to his

house, with the humane intention of restoring him, if possible. By supplying him with nourishment he recovered the use of his speech, and he said that his name was Sullivan. A ruffian of the name of Rosterson, having heard of this act of humanity, went to the house of the person who performed it, and censured him for it. The poor old man said "that the poor patient was a good Roman catholic;" but Rosterson said that "his religion was no excuse, as he was a soldier;" and he instantly plunged his pike into his body.

On the morning of the 27th of May, a large party of rebels attacked the house of the Rev. Francis Turner, of Ballingale, about three miles from Ferns. Mr. Turner had barricaded his house, and introduced eight loyalists into it, for the purpose of defending it to the last extremity; and who gallantly defended it for a considerable time, during which Mr. Turner was wounded, so as to be disabled, in such a degree, that he could not attend to the defence of the house any longer. The rebels then gained admittance by the back door, and immediately murdered Mr. Turner and five of the loyalists. They then set fire to the dwelling house and out-buildings, which were soon reduced to ashes; and the bodies of Mr. Turner and the five loyalists were consumed in them.

In the front of the house they ran a pike through the neck of William Turner, one of the loyalists; and while it was infixed in the wound, they shook his head very

violently, to increase the agony of his pain ; and when his body fell to the ground, they raised it up on their pikes, and threw it down again, to extinguish the remains of life, which might be in it. James Maher and Denis Carthy, who were the leaders in this outrage, afterwards boasted of this horrid deed.

As soon as the garrison of Gorey heard of the defeat of the North Cork militia, at the hill of Oulart, and of the immense numbers who were flocking to Father John's standard, they despaired of being able to maintain their position against so great a superiority of numbers, and retreated to Arklow, and were followed by all the loyalists of the town, together with great numbers who had repaired thither, from the adjacent country, for protection, who dreaded the sanguinary rage of the rebels. When they arrived at Arklow, these poor fugitives presented a woeful spectacle, and had little or nothing to subsist on ; and as all the houses were occupied by the military and yeomen, they were obliged to sleep in barns and out-houses.

On the 29th the garrison was ordered to return to Gorey, and the day after they repulsed a numerous body of rebels, who attacked that town.

Ballinrush and Kiltomas-hill.

Great numbers of the disaffected inhabitants, of the country contiguous to Carnew, assembled under the command of Father Michael Murphey, and after committing many shocking atrocities, were proceeding to attack that town. The garrison, consisting of a company of the Antrim militia, commanded by Captain Rowan, two corps of yeomen infantry, and one of cavalry, in the whole about two hundred men, having received information of their intention, marched out to oppose them. When they arrived at a place called Ballinrush, they found the rebels assembled; and immediately engaged them. After a few rounds from the infantry the rebels fled towards Ferns, which was at that time in the possession of the rebels, leaving nine killed and two prisoners; they had set fire to a number of houses, in that neighbourhood, which the military found in flames.

Soon after this engagement, a detachment of Captain Wainwright's troop, were driven in from an out-post, by the main body of the rebels, who were advancing to renew the attack. The garrison again formed and proceeded to attack them on Kiltomas hill, where they found the rebels had taken an advantageous position; notwithstanding which the infantry attacked them with

great spirit; and after a few destructive discharges of musketry, the rebels were broken, and they began to disperse; the cavalry then charged and in the pursuit killed a great many of them. It is said that upwards of one hundred rebels were killed, and a great number wounded in this action. On the part of the king's troops, only one man was wounded.

They took a great number of horses, which the rebels had left in the field; some of which belonged to the unfortunate Mr. Turner.

Battle of Enniscorthy.

While the country exhibited a scene of distress and consternation, houses in flames, and families flying on all sides for asylum: the loyalists to the towns, others to the hills, to join the body of rebels under Father John Murphy, which at this time amounted to upwards of seven thousand, encouraged by the defeat of the North Cork militia at Oulart, and who now determined on attacking Enniscorthy. This town is situate on both sides of the river Slaney, and the garrison consisted of two companies of the North Cork militia; the Enniscorthy and Scarawall yeomen infantry, and the Enniscorthy yeoman cavalry, in the whole about three hundred men.

Information having been received that Father Murphy intended to attack the town with his whole force; the

magistrates agreed to the seizing and laying under requisition all the gun-powder which could be found in the town, for the purpose of supplying the loyalists with ammunition, for its defence. On searching the house of one Lacy, a shopkeeper, who had previously disappeared, they found some papers of a treasonable nature, which so much enraged the yeomen that they destroyed all the furniture. Strong guards and patrols were stationed on the roads leading and contiguous to the town, and the garrison continued all night under arms in the streets. Captain Snowe, of the North Cork militia, was commanding officer.

Early in the morning of the 20th of May, the garrison was informed that the rebels meant to attack it that day, and about nine o'clock they were perceived advancing towards the town; and at the same time a rebel was seized near the town, on whom was found a rebel commission; he was therefore immediately hanged.

The different positions were instantly assigned to the garrison. The Cork militia occupied the bridge, the Enniscorthy cavalry the street leading to it, the Enniscorthy and Scarawallh infantry the Duffreygate-hill, and a considerable guard was posted in the market-house, where the arms and ammunition were lodged, and another in the castle, where some rebels were in custody.

At eleven o'clock the videttes at the Duffrey-gate came in and announced that the rebels were advancing on the Newtownbarry road, in an immense column. Captains Pounden and Cornock, of the yeomen infantry, then led

their corps forward about four hundred yards ; on which the rebel column halted about the same distance from them. Soon after the rebel leaders began to move among the rebels ; on which great numbers of them filed off to the right and left, in the fields, to the distance of about half a mile from the main body. This manœuvre was for the purpose of outflanking the yeomen, and cutting them off from the town. After this movement they advanced and drove a number of horses on the road against the loyalists, for the purpose of annoying them. They then made an irregular but furious onset, and fired a volley, both from the main body and the flanks. The yeomen returned the fire and brought down a great number of them. As the rebels continued to advance, and to extend their wings, for the purpose of surrounding the yeomen, the latter retreated near the town, and sent to Captain Snowe, who guarded the bridge, where he was supported by the cavalry, commanded by Captain Richards, to request he would reinforce them with the Cork militia, and he accordingly repaired to the Duffrey-gate ; but as a detachment of them were between him and the enemy, he could not do any material service, without running a risk of injuring the loyalists ; and, as apprehensions were entertained that the rebels would cross the river to attack Templeshannon, he repaired to his former post at the bridge, and ordered the cavalry to cover his retreat, as a large body of rebels had come near his last position. Captain Richards then charged and dispersed them ; but in

this service nine of his men were killed and three wounded; and sixteen horses were killed and wounded. Fortunately Captain Snowe arrived in time to prevent the rebels from crossing the river, having killed great numbers in their attempts to do so.

At last, the yeomen infantry, perceiving that they must soon be cut off by the long extended wings of the enemy, while the main body engaged them, divided themselves into small parties, and occupied the different avenues which led into the town, where they made a most gallant defence, and killed great numbers of the rebels; though they suffered much from the treachery of the disloyal inhabitants, who fired at them from the windows; by which some of them were killed. They also set fire to several houses in the town to annoy the yeomen; for, in a short time three large suburbs, called Guttle-street, Drumgoold, Irish street, and two lanes in the centre of the town, were in flames.

The rebels, defeated in the attempts which they made to cross the river on the north and west side of the town, made an effort to cross it, about a quarter of a mile above the bridge, where there is an island, in which they succeeded; but were soon repulsed by Captain Richard's corps, part of whom fired at them with carbines, from a place about one hundred yards above the glebe-house, and killed great numbers; at the same time Captain Snowe's corps severely annoyed them, from the bridge. They then attempted to cross the river higher up, out of

the reach of the militia ; but Captain Snowe sent Lieutenant Prior, with a serjeant and sixteen men to oppose them, which they did most effectually ; for they took post behind a hedge, and killed great numbers of them, until their ammunition was expended.

Soon after this Captain Cornock came to the bridge, wounded, and demanded a reinforcement from Captain Snowe, as the rebels had forced into the town in considerable numbers, at the Duffrey-gate and Irish street. One column of them attacked Captain Pounden's, the other Captain Cornock's corps, which had suffered materially. The streets were entirely involved in smoke, so that the yeomen could not see the rebels till they were charged by their pikes. The flames from the houses at each side of the street were so great, as to unite over their heads. The loyalists then retreated to the market-house, where they made a determined stand, and killed great numbers of the rebels. By this effort they turned the scale and drove the rebels out of the town, the streets of which presented an awful scene of conflagration. While the yeomen were thus engaged in the south side of the town, another body of the rebels crossed the river about three quarters of a mile above the bridge, but were soon routed by Captain Snowe, on which occasion his men seldom failed to bring down such rebels as they aimed at. The cavalry then charged them with great slaughter ; but with the loss of two men killed, and some wounded. As a party of the rebels which came from Vinegar-hill, towards the glebe,

still remained unassailed, and their numbers seemed to increase, they were attacked by a detachment of the Cork militia, commanded by Captain Drury, who dispersed them with considerable slaughter.

So fluctuating for some time was the success of the day, that many persons, to avoid the fury of each prevailing party in turn, alternately hoisted the orange and the green ribbon.

The loss of the garrison, including volunteers, amounted to near ninety, among whom was John Pounder, Esq. of Daphne; a gentleman universally beloved. The loss of the rebels, who certainly suffered a very galling fire, as the yeoman infantry fired upwards of forty rounds each man, was said to be upwards of five hundred.

When the action terminated the loyalists were left in full possession of the town; yet they did not think it tenable for the following reasons: it was in a state of conflagration; and the rebels who continued to hover round it would have attacked it in the night. The officers therefore resolved to abandon the town, and retreat to Wexford, on the east side of the river.

Most of the loyal inhabitants of Enniscorthy, and a multitude of others, who had come thither for protection, fled through the flames towards Wexford; and providentially the direction and weakness of the wind favoured their escape, for they could not otherwise have passed through the burning streets. The terror, consternation, and distress, of these fugitives, is not to be described,

flying for their lives in a confused multitude, without distinction of rank, sex, or age, almost all on foot, and leaving all their effects in the hands of their enemies. The state of their minds may be somewhat conceived from the following circumstance, that women, habituated to all the indulgencies which an affluent fortune affords, not only fled on foot, but also in that situation carried their infants on their backs to Wexford, the distance of which from Enniscorthy is eleven Irish, or fourteen English miles,

Mrs. Pounden, wife of Captain Pounden, waded twice through the river Slaney, under the fire of both parties, and escaped, with one child, unhurt. She was obliged to leave six children behind her in the burning town.

Some ladies, however, were utterly unable to perform this march, and must have been abandoned to their fate, if they had not found some means of conveyance. In the deplorable condition of these fugitives, two circumstances were favourable: the weather was remarkably fine and they were not pursued. Without the latter circumstance most of them must have been destroyed or captured. Some, who found not the opportunity of escape, were butchered in the streets, or imprisoned and reserved for future butchery by the rebels.

Such of the loyal inhabitants as were unable to join their departing friends, took a melancholy farewell of them, and waited the fatal hour, when they were to fall victims to the fanatical vengeance of the rebels, who,

when they got possession of the town, proceeded with savage delight, to commit unbounded carnage and plunder.

The following extract of a letter, written by the Reverend Mr. Handcock, rector of Kilcormuck, who fought with the king's troops, will give the reader an idea of the sufferings of the loyalists. After giving an account of the battle, he says :

" Finding we could no longer maintain our position, I rushed singly through the burning streets, with a blunderbuss ready cocked, and presenting it at every person who looked at me, running for my life, but without the faintest hope of saving it or that of my family, yet determined to share their fate, and with great difficulty, getting into my house, which had been locked and barricadoed by the frightened inmates. My wife lay-in but two days before, yet I dragged her down stairs, with my children, just as they sat in her sick room ; and observing which way the fugitives were moving out of the town, I forced them along with the tragical cavalcade, until my wife, overpowered with terror and the heat of the flames, fell on a burning pile of rubbish, where, unable myself, from fatigue, to raise her, she would have been suffocated or trampled to death, had not a gallant fellow of the North Cork militia, wounded, and scarce able to drag his legs after him, assisted me, swearing the Munster oath, " By J—s, you did not forsake us, and I will not desert you."

The poor soldier accordingly stuck to us till we arrived at Wexford.

In return for this, having got my wife and children behind and before mounted yeomen, I procured a horse for his wife, and carried his musket as far as I was able. When we came within three or four miles of Wexford, we were met by the yeomen cavalry of that town, who assembled and turned out, on hearing of our disaster, to cover our retreat."

A great many of the mounted yeomen gave their horses to the poor fugitives, and walked the whole way, though almost exhausted with fatigue.

Some ladies, wild with horror and affright, waded over the river Slaney, at the risk of their lives, with one child on their back and another in their arms; a party of whom were met in their retreat to the river, by a boy about fifteen years of age, armed with a pike, who approached them with a stern air; on which they asked him if he was going to murder them? and he said, "No; but it is no matter where you go, for you will all be killed."

The rebel army having got compleat possession of the town, they immediately broke open the gaol and liberated all the prisoners; after which they proceeded to burn and destroy every house belonging to a loyalist of any distinction; and before eight o'clock in the evening the principal part of the town was in a state of conflagration. Late in the evening a great number of old men, women, and children, fled into the adjoining woods, lest they

should perish in the flames, or by the sanguinary rage of the rebels; who continued to commit every wanton cruelty, which savage ferocity could dictate.

The rebels having heard the next day that a number of loyalists, of both sexes, had retreated into the wood, sent a party, well armed, to scour it; and they killed such of them as were objects of rebel vengeance.

The morning after the rebels got possession of the town, it presented a most dreadful scene of carnage and conflagration; a great number of bodies were lying dead in the streets; and many were groaning in the agonies of death. Some parts of the town were entirely consumed, and in others the flames continued to rage with inextinguishable fury; no less than four hundred and seventy-eight dwelling houses were consumed in the town and its vicinity, besides a great number of warehouses, and out-buildings.

The following morning the rebels formed a camp on Vinegar-hill, made entrenchments round it, and placed some batteries in them. They then stationed a very large garrison in the town, and placed strong picquet guards, centinels, and videts, in all the avenues leading to the town, and for some miles round it; which was relieved every day by an officer's guard from the camp on the hill. Such great numbers of the lower class of catholics flocked to this camp, that it very soon consisted of more than ten thousand men.

Richard Whealey, a lock-smith, near one hundred years of age, fell a victim to their cruelty. Some were assassinated whilst in the act of giving them freely of their own; witness Edward Sly, who was shot by his neighbour William Lee, while handing him a quart of beer. Many were torn out of the arms of their wives, and murdered before them in a most barbarous manner; nor would those women be even permitted to bury their husbands.

The rebels then proceeded to destroy the church of Enniscorthy, and having pulled down the organ, the pews, the reading desk, and the communion table, they carried them to the church door, where they burned them to ashes, together with all the bibles and prayer-books that were in the church. They then demolished the remainder of the inside part of the church, leaving nothing but the roof and the bare walls. They also took down the bell and carried it to Vinegar-hill camp, where they mounted it between two large beams, which were erected for that purpose. In case of surprise, the ringing of the bell, was to give the alarm.

The rebels converted the wall of an old wind mill, on the top of the hill, into a prison; where they confined such of the loyalists as were made prisoners. After they had remained there a short time, they were tried by a court-martial, which sat constantly for that purpose, and then led to the front of the rebel line, where they were immediately shot or piked.

On the morning of the 29th of May, the rebels put to death twenty-four persons of the established church, one of whom was Mr. Henry Hatton, portrieve of the town of Enniscorthy.

The glebe-house of Enniscorthy was burned to ashes ; but the rebels converted the out-buildings into stores for keeping provisions and stores for the camp ; and any article which they had acquired by plunder.

The house of Mr. Bennett, of Bermount, near Ringwood was visited by a band of rebels, who were in search for loyalists. A gentleman and his wife having gone into the wood on the 28th of May, to conceal themselves from the rebels, were discovered by Mr. Bennett, (who had also retired there for safety during the night) in the morning, who kindly invited them to his house to get some refreshment, where they remained during the day. In the evening they were informed that the rebels were approaching the house, and that they intended to burn it and murder the inmates ; on which Mr. Bennett and the gentleman repaired into the garden and concealed themselves. The females then went out to meet the rebels, with green boughs in their hands as an emblem of rebellion, and the rebels assured them they should not be hurt. After searching every corner of the house without finding a victim to satisfy their savage brutality, they proceeded into the garden, where they discovered the gentleman, and were on the point of shooting him ; but were prevented by some

others who said they would suspend his execution till the officer, who commanded them, arrived. They then carried him off, and on their road they met a rebel who went to Father Murphey, and obtained a protection for him, and another for Mr. Bennett's house.

The rebels boasted that on their road they had killed Mr. Edward White, and his son, an idiot, at Roxana, near Vinegar-hill.

The following is extracted from an account which the gentleman's wife has given, of their sufferings and distress, during this calamitous period :

" On Thursday I went to Vinegar-hill, in hopes of getting a protection from Father Philip Roche, a rebel chieftain. In our way to Enniscorthy, we saw twelve dead bodies lying on the road ; and on entering the town we were filled with horror at beholding a great number of them in the streets. The camp at Vinegar-hill presented a dreadful scene of confusion and uproar. A number of female rebels, more vehement than the male were marching out to meet the army from Newtown-barry. This was a large body which Father Roche led from Vinegar-hill to the attack of that town, which took place on the 1st of June. Great numbers of women were in the camp. Some men were employed in killing cattle, and boiling them in pieces in large copper brewing-pans ; others were drinking, cursing, and swearing ; many of them were playing on various musical instruments, which they had acquired by plunder in the adjacent protestant houses ; and

this produced a most disagreeable and barbarous dissonance. At last I met Father Roche in Enniscorthy, and he gave me a protection, not only for my husband, but one for Mr. Bennett's house, in the following words, which was posted up in the hall: "No man to molest this house, or its inhabitants, on pain of death!" However a rebel guard came next day to Mr. Bennett's, and compelled him and my husband to go before the parish priest of Bree, in order to send them to the attack on Ross; but John Devereux, a rebel captain, discharged them on seeing Father Roche's protection; and soon after Father John Sutton, and Mr. Barker, a rebel general, gave them protections. We then repaired to Mr. Joshua Lett's, a mile beyond Enniscorthy, where we staid some days. During our residence there, we daily saw great crowds of rebels, who often boasted of the number of protestants they had put to death. They compelled us to go to mass, which we did, to preserve our lives. At last they discovered that my husband was concealed in Mr. Lett's house, and threatened to demolish it unless he was instantly dismissed. As Mr. Lett was obliged to comply with this mandate, we repaired to Mr. Fitzhenry's of Ballymacus, about five miles off. In our way thither we met large parties of rebels, who would have put us to death, but for the priest's protection; for which they always shewed the greatest respect. We were there but a few hours, when a rebel guard arrived and carried us back to Enniscorthy, where my husband was put into a

guard house, containing about a dozen unfortunate protestants, who were shot or piked next day in the camp. I was then desired to apply to one of their officers, named Morgan Byrne, whom I found sitting in their committee-room, at a long table, with many books and papers before him. Father Fearn was at the head of the table, round which all the members of the committee sat. On representing my situation, and that of my husband, Mr. Patrick Sutton, who was a general among them, said "He would do his utmost to serve us" and Mr. Morgan Byrne, said "He would spare his life, provided he would join and fight with them." Unheard of barbarities were committed at Enniscorthy, Vinegar-hill, and in all the adjacent country, before the rebels were subdued and driven from them. The pikemen would often shew us their pikes all stained with blood, and boast of having murdered our friends and neighbours."

Samuel Goodison, a wealthy farmer, his wife and nine children remained in Ringwood on the night of the 28th of May, to escape the rebels. In the morning they repaired to the seat of Doctor Hill, who offered to let them remain there; but Goodison said he was sure of getting a protection, if he could arrive with safety at Enniscorthy. He left his family about a quarter of a mile from the town, and having advanced a short way, he met his neighbour and particular friend Luke Byrne, from whom he was sure of obtaining a protection; but that sanguinary monster instantly shot him. He was afterwards heard to boast

that he never ate so sweet a breakfast, as he had that morning, for that he had killed Samuel Goodison and William Carroll.

John Stillman, eighty years old, and George Saunders, seventy years old, slept all night in Ringwood; and having come out in the morning they were shot in the road leading to Enniscorthy. Saunders died instantly; but Stillman continued alive till next day. The rebels had but one ball among them, and they fired it four times through his body, while he was lying on the ground. He had but one eye, which they put out with a pike. At length they put him to death.

The Reverend Mr. Heydon, rector of Ferns, a very old man, was murdered in the streets of Enniscorthy, and his body left to be devoured by swine; the rebels would not suffer it to be interred.

On the 30th of May, William Neal, and his two sons, Henry and Brian, were seized at his house at Ballybrennan, by a band of assassins, and conveyed to the camp at Vinegar-hill. Bryan offered them his horse and cow if they would liberate them; but one Michael Maddock, who was the leader of the band, said, "That the cattle of all orangemen belonged to them already." When they arrived on the hill, a conference was held, and the father and his sons were condemned. They first led out to execution Bryan, who begged they would shoot him instead of torturing him with pikes. One of the rebels immediately struck him on the head, with an axe and another

stabbed him in the side with a spear, a third in the back, and a fourth shot him. The father was then brought forth for execution, and desired to be shot; and the rebels having complied with his request, they put him on his knees. The executioner then presented his musket, but missed fire at him three times; on which Father Roche, who attended the execution, desired him to try whether his gun would go off in the air, and it did so. Father Roche then gave him a protection, and ordered him to be discharged; having imputed his escape to divine providence. William Neal had another son burnt in the barn at Scullabogue.

A glazier of Enniscorthy, named Davis, was made a prisoner and conveyed to Vinegar hill, by a band of rebels, who told him he should be put to death. When he arrived at the camp, he saw upwards of forty dead bodies lying on the ground quite naked, and much mangled with pikes; among which was the body of Henry Hatton. They then put him on his knees, and shot him through the body and the arm, and stabbed him with pikes; after which they buried him, and covered his body lightly over with fods. He lay in that situation from seven o'clock in the evening till five next morning, when he found a dog had scraped away the fods and was licking his wounds. He was then delivered to his wife, by Father Sutton, of Enniscorthy, and she conveyed him to their own house; where, with the aid of medical assistance, he recovered.

On the 31st of May, John Mooney, servant to Doctor Hill, was taken prisoner and conveyed to the wind-mill prison, on the top of Vinegar-hill, where he found about sixteen protestant prisoners, who had been condemned to die. They were desired to prepare for death, and soon after a rebel came in and began to torture them by way of amusement; but the centinel interfered, and said that as they were to die soon, it was cruel to torment them. In a few minutes one of the prisoners was taken out and immediately shot; and soon after the remainder were executed in the same manner. Mooney, the last person taken out, was placed among the dead bodies, and the executioner, whose name was Byrne, desired him to turn his back to him, but Mooney refused to do so, and said that he was not afraid to face a bullet. The ragged executioner then advanced within a few paces of him, and presented his musket, on which Mooney desired him to stop; and taking off his coat, waistcoat, and hat, threw them to him, desiring him to take them for his trouble. The man, struck with Mooney's fortitude, said it was an undoubted proof of his innocence; and declared that he would have nothing to do with him. On this another sanguinary monster insisted on putting him to death, and presented a blunderbuss for that purpose; but Byrne interfered, and swore that he would blow out the brains of any person who would attempt to injure Mooney; and he immediately dismissed him.

Patrick Conners, his wife, daughter, and two other men of the names of Rigley and Plunket, were taken and conveyed to the camp at Vinegar hill, where the rebels were parading. Soon after they arrived there, they were carried to the front of the rebel lines, for execution, and the men were shot by one Darcy, one after another; he saying to each, very deliberately, "Now I will do your business."

When Conners was shot, his wife was standing by his side: and on falling to the ground, he pulled her with him. His daughter was afterwards offered a sum of money if she would not prosecute; but she declared that she never would sell the blood of her father.

Luke Byrne, a brewer of Enniscorthy, at the head of a band of rebels, in the streets of that town, was accosted by one Carroll, with whom he had always lived in habits of friendship; but instead of meeting with a friend, as Carroll expected, this sanguinary wretch drew his sword, and prostrated him on the ground with it. He then ordered his pikemen to dispatch him, and they instantly plunged their pikes into his body.

Edward St Ledger was taken and carried to Vinegar-hill; but was soon after liberated at the intercession of one Fenelon, a schoolmaster. As he was descending the hill, he saw a man sitting without cloaths, except part of a blanket, which had been thrown over him. This poor object presented a most shocking appearance, his eyes



having been put out, and his legs and body much swollen, and his face was covered with ulcers. There was a rebel centinel over him, who informed St. Ledger, that he had been condemned to suffer slow death.

Mr. George Horneck, an opulent farmer, of Gurrane, in the county of Wexford, was reduced to poverty by the rebellion. He had two sons who fought in the defence of Enniscorthy, and were taken by a party of rebels commanded by Robert Canby, of Ballybogue, in their retreat towards Wexford. They immediately murdered George in a most cruel manner; but carried Robert to Vinegar-hill camp, as a prisoner. They then sent to his father, who was keeping garrison at the house of the Rev. John Richards, of Grange, to inform him that if he would surrender his arms, they would save the life of his son; but Mr. Horneck, knowing the treachery of the rebels, refused to comply; having said that he had sworn to surrender them to no person but the government, and implored them to be merciful to his son. The day after the rebels shot him in the camp; and yet this unfortunate young man recovered about midnight, and though quite naked and covered with blood, he crept to the foot of the hill and waded over the river Slaney: he then proceeded towards his father's house, which was some miles off, in hopes of finding an asylum; but he found it deserted by the family, who had fled for protection to Ross, whither he endeavoured to follow them; but was intercepted in

the road, by a large party of rebels, who butchered him in a most savage manner, and then threw his body into a gravel pit.

Mr. Charles Cooper, son-in-law of Mr. Horneck, and three other loyal fugitives, were seized at Castle-bridge, and murdered..

Philip Horneck, brother to George, was taken by the rebels at the house of Mr. John Glascott, at Alderstown, whence they conveyed him to their camp at Carrickbyrne, where they murdered him, and then quartered and burned his body.

It is generally believed that upwards of three hundred and seventy loyalists were slaughtered, by the rebels, in the camp on Vinegar-hill.

Attack on Borris.

Mr. Kavenagh, of Borris, assembled his corps of yeomanry, on the 25th of May, for the purpose of arresting a great number of blacksmiths, who were employed in forging pikes, and succeeded in securing many of them, and obtained a large quantity of pikes, which occasioned great disturbance in the town and neighbourhood: in consequence of which Mr. Kavenagh was induced to keep his corps together, though not on permanent duty, as he had every reason to suppose that the town would be attacked that night by the rebels, which accordingly took place. In the night upwards of one thousand rebels made

a most furious attack on the mansion-house of that town, expecting to recover the pikes and pike handles which had been taken and surrendered; also to liberate the blacksmiths who had been arrested and confined there. The Borris yeomanry, stationed in the mansion house, received them with great spirit, and at length succeeded in repulsing them; though not until they had broken open the lower windows of the house, and rescued the blacksmiths. In this attack the rebels had a number killed and wounded, without any loss on the part of the yeomanry.

The system of free quarters had been exercised by the troops, in the vicinity of Borris, and the soldiery had committed many acts of oppression: accounts of which contributed greatly to foment the spirit of disaffection which then existed. This place is about ten miles from Lackan, and fourteen from Vinegar-hill.

For three or four days after Mr. Kavenagh, with his corps, continued to attack and disperse the rebels in that neighbourhood, which obliged them to join their associates in the county of Wexford, where they carried every thing before them.

The post of Borris was then reinforced by thirty of the 9th dragoons, and twenty-four of the Donegal militia, and as Captain Kavenagh's corps consisted of fifty-five mounted and dismounted cavalry, the garrison remained unmolested until the 12th of June. On that day, while all the officers, except one, and the greatest part of the

men, were engaged in different duties in the country, the rebels entered the town in very great numbers, and set fire to every house in it belonging to Mr. Kavenagh and his yeomen. They then attacked the mansion house, where they met with a most gallant resistance, though its garrison was reduced to seventeen yeomen and twenty of the Donegal militia. The rebels had a howitzer, which they brought to bear upon the house, but were unable to batter it. Seven rebels were found dead on the spot; but it has been since learned, that they carried off many of their killed and wounded on carts, and that they threw some of the former into the burning houses. On the part of the garrison, a Donegal foldier was killed, and two were wounded.

The rebels were commanded by Father Kearns, a noted rebel leader, who was afterwards hanged at Edenderry. They expected to have seized a quantity of ammunition which had been left there by a regiment which marched through the town, and the arms of the garrison, and to have proceeded across the rivers and assist in the renewal of an attack upon Ross, by advancing against it on the Kilkenny side; a march in which they would have been joined by the whole country.

Taking of Wexford.

Previous to the 28th of May, the garrison of Wexford consisted of the remainder of the North Cork militia, which did not amount to three hundred men; the Wexford yeoman infantry; and the Wexford and Taghmon yeomen cavalry; which were joined by the troops that escaped from Enniscorthy.

Among the modes of preparation adopted for defence in Wexford, the fires were to be extinguished, and the roofs of the thatched houses were to be stripped, lest the disaffected inhabitants should fire the town, to favour the assailants.

To disperse the insurgents, without battle or concession, or perhaps to divert their attention and retard their progress, an expedient was assayed by Captain Boyd, of the Wexford cavalry. This officer had, in consequence of a resolution to that purpose of the sheriff and other gentlemen, on the 26th and 27th, from information or suspicion of treasonable designs, arrested Beauchamp Bagenal Harvey, of Bargycastle; John Henry Colclough, of Ballyteig; and Edward Fitzgerald, of Newpark, all three gentlemen of the county of Wexford. Visiting them in prison on the 29th of May, Captain Boyd agreed with these gentlemen that one of them should go to the rebels at Enniscorthy, and endeavour to persuade them to disperse and

return to their homes; but would not give authority to promise any terms to the insurgents in case of submission. Colclough, at the request of Harvey, stipulated to go on condition of Fitzgerald being permitted to accompany him. On the arrival of these two gentlemen at Enniscorthy, about four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, they found the rebels in a state of confusion, distracted in their councils, and undetermined in any plan of operations; some proposing to attack Newtownbarry, others Ross, others Wexford, others to remain in their present post, the greatest number to march home for the defence of their own houses against orangemen. But when shouts, repeated from group to group, announced the arrival of the "gentlemen prisoners," as they were called, from Wexford, the straggling multitude soon collected into one body. The rebel gentlemen's message being delivered without effect, Mr. Colclough, a man of honour, retired with intention of re-entering his prison, according to his promise; but Fitzgerald remained with the rebels, and marched with them that evening to a post called the Three-rocks, two miles and a half from Wexford, which town they had, immediately after the arrival of the messengers, determined to attack. Three-rocks, which the rebels now chose for their military station, and where they remained until the following day, is the termination of a long, but not high ridge, called the Mountains of Forth, separating the baronies of Bargy and Forth from the rest of the country.

Early in the morning of the 29th of May, Colonel Maxwell, of the Donegal militia, with two hundred of his regiment and a six-pounder, accompanied by Colonel Colville, Captain Young, and Lieutenant Sodon of the 13th regiment, who volunteered on the occasion, arrived in Wexford from Duncannon-fort, dispatched by General Fawcett, who had been apprized of the insurrection on the 27th, by Captain Knox. This reinforcement not being sufficient, Mr. Joshua Sutton carried a letter from the mayor of Wexford to the general, requesting an additional force; and returned with an auxilliating answer, that the general himself would commence his march for Wexford, the same evening, from Duncannon, with the 13th regiment, four companies of the Meath militia, and a party of artillery, with two howitzers. On the receipt of this intelligence, Colonel Maxwell, leaving the five passes into the town guarded by the yeomen and North Cork militia, took post with his men on the Windmill-hill above the town, at day break on the following morning, with resolution to march against the enemy on the arrival of General Fawcett's army.

The general had marched according to his promise on the evening of the 29th; but unfortunately halting at Taghmon, seven miles from Wexford, he had sent forward a detachment of eighty-eight men, including eighteen of the artillery, with the howitzers, under the command of Captain Adams, of the Meath militia. This detachment was intercepted early in the morning of the 30th,

under Three-rocks, by the rebel army, the howitzers taken, and almost the whole party slain. The general is said to have been in bed when he received the news of this disaster, and falling back precipitately to Duncannon, to have sent his family to England ; detaining the packet-boat two hours for that purpose.

Informed of the destruction of Captain Adam's detachment by Lieutenant Fairclough, of the Meath militia, and Lieutenant Birch of the artillery, who had escaped the slaughter, and were brought to Windmill-hill by the patrol guards, Colonel Maxwell advanced immediately with what forces he could collect, towards the enemy, with design to re-take the howitzers, and to co-operate with General Fawcet, of whose retreat he had no suspicion. When he arrived within cannon shot of the rebels, he found that the howitzers had been drawn to the top of the ridge, and that shells were thrown at his army with a precision which evinced the operation of some skilful managers. After some discharges of his six-pounder in return, the colonel observing his left flank exposed by the retreat of some of the Taghmon cavalry, the enemy making a motion to surround him, and no appearance of General Fawcet, retired in good order to Wexford, with the loss of Lieutenant-colonel Watfon killed, and two privates wounded.

The situation of Wexford, commanded by hills, rendered it indefensible against artillery, by a garrison of only six hundred men, when the increasing number of the

rebels at Three rocks amounted to fifteen thousand, besides a great number left at Enniscorthy. A number of disaffected yeomen deserted to the enemy; many concealed rebels were, with good reason, suspected to be awaiting within the town, an opportunity of co-operating with their associates without; and, to compleat the distrust and depression of spirits of the rest of the garrison, the North Cork militia, who had been stationed near the barrack, quitted their post about half after ten o'clock, directing their march to Duncannon; and were immediately followed, and soon overtaken, by Captain Cornock with his yeoman infantry, who retreated in like manner. These considerations obliged Colonel Maxwell to evacuate Wexford; and two deputies, counsellor Richards and his brother, an apothecary, being sent to notify the evacuation to the rebels, to prevent them from acting as if the town had been taken by storm, the army retreated to the fort of Duncannon, twenty-three miles distant, accompanied by such of the loyal inhabitants and refugees from other places as were apprized of the intended evacuation, and were willing and able to perform the march; but, as the troops may be said to have stolen away from the town, great numbers were left in the power of the rebels, merely by their ignorance of the retreat.

A great number of loyalists then endeavoured to crowd on board the vessels in the harbour, to take refuge in Britain; but of these only a few effected their purpose, for most of the vessels being manned by Romanists, when the

town was observed to be in the possession of the rebels, returned to the quays from the mouth of the harbour, and re-landed their people.

The king's troops, in their retreat, proceeded in the most disorderly manner through the baronies of Forth and Bargo; and in case of pursuit they might have been destroyed by the rebel army; while by the devastations they committed in their way, by the burning of cabins, they augmented the number and rage of the insurgents, who took possession of Wexford without opposition.

About seven miles from Wexford, Captain Snowe overtook Mr. John Colclough, and his wife, in a phaeton; and as he, from residing in that country, and from being a rebel chieftain, had great influence among the disaffected, the captain resolved to detain him as a hostage, to prevent any attack from being made on his detachment in their retreat.

During their march, large bodies of rebels frequently appeared behind the hedges ready to oppose them; and whenever this happened, Captain Snowe obliged Mr. Colclough to stand up in his phaeton, as a token of amity; at other times Mr. Colclough waved his hat in the air, on which the rebels immediately dispersed.

Mr. Colclough had been liberated the day before at Wexford, and said he was going to his house at Ballyteigue, in the barony of Forth; though, in fact, he was proceeding to join the rebels; yet, with singular dissimulation, he, standing in his phaeton, drank the king's health

and said, " Captain Snowe, remember that I am a loyal subject: I was committed on a charge grounded on the malicious information of a villain."

The day following Mrs. Colclough triumphantly entered Wexford, which was in possession of the rebels, in her phaeton, adorned with green emblems.

Captain Snowe compelled Mr. Colclough to accompany them to the river Scarpas, where the tide being full, which made it impassable, they were under the necessity of making a detour of at least ten miles.

About six miles from Duncannon-fort, when it was extremely dark, they were attacked and fired on in the rear, by a party of rebel horse, commanded by John Murphey, who afterwards headed the Rossgarland corps of rebels, and was concerned in burning the barn at Scullabogue. The soldiers, after firing a few random shots, were panick-struck and they fled to Taylor's-town bridge; on which having thronged in great numbers, they were very much exposed to a heavy fire from the rebels, who were posted on an adjacent furze-brake on a hill.

Many persons were killed on the bridge, and among them two women, one a soldier's wife, the other a young girl, extremely well dressed, who was the daughter of an Enniscorthy loyalist, and had retreated with them from that town.

About fifty of the North Cork, and the yeomanry were taken prisoners, and a good many were killed. James

Neale, one of the band of music, his wife, and another woman, who became their prisoners, were perforated with pikes in a most barbarous manner. After having stripped them of the greatest part of their cloaths, their bodies were conveyed to a newly-ploughed field, and covered over very lightly with fods. Neal's wife, in whom life was not extinguished, recovered in the night and removed the fods; and finding her husband's bloody shirt and waistcoat she covered herself with them, and crept to Tintern, from whence she was sent on a cart to Duncannon-fort, and from thence to Waterford, where she was completely cured in the hospital. There were many pike wounds on her legs, thighs, and arms, and her head was much swollen and ulcerated.

As Captain Snowe's detachment, attacked in a strange country and during a dark night, were panick-struck and dispersed, he was left quite alone, and arrived at Duncannon-fort about seven in the morning, after having experienced various distresses and dangers, and almost overcome with hunger and fatigue. Lieutenant-colonel Maxwell's party retreated by Bridgetown, Duncormuck, and the pass of the Scar, at Barnstown; where they halted some time, and then proceeded to Duncannon-fort. Thus the retreat of the garrison at Wexford was in a great measure performed by night, in a country whose inhabitants were in a state of insurrection; yet in the course of their march they did not receive any nourishment.

The rebels having obtained complete possession of Wexford, their leaders, intending to wave their banners far and near, marched them up to the Three-rocks on the 21st of May; there they formed them into three separate bodies, one under Beauchamp Bagenal Harvey, (who was liberated from confinement, by the rebels; with the other prisoners) and Father Philip Roche, of Poulparley, destined to march against Rosk; another under the command of Captain Doyle and Captain Redmond, from the Queen's county, nephew to Father Edward Redmond, of Kears, who, with Father Kearns, who went with this body to Vinegar-hill, to attack Newtownbarry; and the third body was under the command of Anthony Perry, Father Murrephy, of Ballycanow, and Father Murrephy of Boolavogue, destined to march against Gorey, such to commence an attack on the 1st of June.

Thus the rebel army was divided into three separate bodies for the above end, and moved off the Three-rocks at the same time, for their different stations, sure of victory from their numbers and successes. Bagenal Harvey marched to Taghmon, and was greatly reinforced from that quarter; he formed his camp at Carrickburn, which was his head quarters. The body under Captains Doyle and Redmond, and Fathers Redmond and Kearns, marched to Vinegar-hill, hundreds flocking to their standard, as they passed through the country. Perry and Father Murrephy led their men through Oulart, burning all the

protestant houses along the road, Perry and Murphey agreed to make two divisions of their men, one under Perry to encamp on Corrigrue-hill, on the night of the 1st of June; and Murphey to encamp on Ballymenane-hill, within two miles of Gorey, and await the arrival of Perry; then with their united armies, to attack the town at dawn of day on the 2d of June, in every direction. Here we shall leave them, and return to Wexford, and relate the principal occurrences which took place from the time the rebels took possession of that town until a few days before they were expelled from it by the king's troops.

On taking possession of the town they appointed General Keugh commandant of it, and bore him on their shoulders to the court-house. The houses belonging to all the protestants, who made their escape, were immediately plundered, and many of them destroyed. Most of the protestant men, who could not make their escape, were committed to prison, and Mr. John Boyd, with two other men, were murdered.

The Rev. Mr. Handcock, who retreated with his family from Enniscorthy, has given the following account, to shew the dangerous state of the fugitive loyalists: "On the morning of the 30th of May, the day after our arrival at Wexford, in compliance with the earnest and irresistible adjuration of my wife, I determined on going to sea, carelessly whither; but so traitorous were the boatmen, and so resolved (as appeared in many instances after) to deliver

up the gentry to the rebels, that after bargaining with several of them for a boat to Waterford or Dublin, or a sloop to Wales, and being in the most ruffianly manner insulted by the boatmen, and pelted with stones from the shore, I could not prevail on one of them to put off, until with a pistol in each hand, and desperation in my heart, they saw me hesitating, whether to blow out their brains or my own."

A number of protestant ladies and some gentlemen, with their servants, embarked on board a sloop belonging to one Thomas Dixon, a most sanguinary papist, on the 30th of May, who, after he had exacted a large sum from them, for their passage, refused to put to sea till the vessel was lighted, as she was then heavily laden with coals; on which the gentlemen and their servants assisted in throwing a quantity of that article on shore. As a further excuse Dixon said that he must go on shore to know what signal to hoist, as he had friends among the rebels and no vessel would be permitted to proceed to sea but his own. Having repaired to the place where the rebels were in great force, he returned in about an hour and a half and advised the passengers to conceal their arms and uniforms, as the rebels had entered the town. He then went on shore a second time and returned with two boats full of rebels, who took their arms from them and made them prisoners. They were then landed at the post-office and remained there till the 1st of June.

Mr. Crump, Mr. Bland, and Mr. Kellet, with their wives, who were of the party, repaired to the house of the latter at Clonard, about three miles from Wexford, where they remained till the 4th of June. While they were there Mr. Cornelius Grogan visited them, and asked what part they would take in the war? having replied that they would continue neuter, Mr. Grogan assured them that the rebels would not permit them to be neuter, and said they had compelled him to take the united Irishman's oath, and invested him with the office of commissary to the republic. He then took an inventory of all the provisions at Clonard and left them.

On that day the three gentlemen were conveyed to the goal of Wexford, by the rebels, and were committed to a long narrow passage, which was extremely filthy. Mr. Bland then wrote a note to General Knapp, with whom he had been well acquainted, representing their disagreeable situation. On his arrival in the prison Mr. Bland asked him, whether they could not be liberated on their parole? He replied, "By no means, as the wishes of the people must be indulged;" however he had them removed to a more agreeable apartment on the other side of the goal yard, where there was no furniture, except a wretched bed without clothes.

The day after they were committed a number of soldiers attempted to break open the goal, and to massacre all the prisoners in it; but Fathers Cortin and Booc prevented them, but not without some difficulty.

On the 7th of June they were committed to a prison-ship, with many other gentlemen, where they were confined sixteen days in the hold of a small vessel, covered with an iron grate, and had no other bed but a light covering of straw over the ballast. Their breakfast consisted of a small barley loaf, almost black, and a pint of milk : their dinner of coarse boiled beef, with some potatoes, let down in the dirty bucket of the ship, without a knife or fork. Two days in the week their only food was potatoes and bad butter.

A number of loyalists embarked on board a sloop called the *Lovely Kitty*, on the 30th of May, and sailed as far as the fort of Rosslare, where the sailors cast anchor, under the pretext of taking in ballast. In the evening they were surrounded by a number of boats, the crews of which behaved in such a brutal manner to the passengers, that they were under serious apprehensions for their lives. As the vessel, from its smallness, could afford accommodation for but few of the passengers, many of them were obliged to remain on deck all night, among the sailors, who were drunk. Some of them held pistols to the breasts of the women, and threatened to shoot them.

The day following a party of the female passengers were conveyed to Wexford as prisoners, and lodged in the house of a chandler, and in a very small room, where they had but one bed to sleep on, and where they suffered much from bad food.

As the second party of ladies were leaving the vessel in a small boat, one of the sailors shot Mr. Dowse, one of the passengers; and the first object these ladies saw on their landing, was the body of Mr. John Boyd, which lay bleeding on the quay, and writhing with agony of pain.

On the same day the rebels murdered Mr. Sparrow, one of the Enniscorthy yeomen, and dragged his body through the streets, and tied it to one of the piers of the bridge, where it remained till the king's troops arrived.

One of the ladies who was treacherously re-landed by Thomas Dixon, repaired to the house of Mr. Hatchell, near the bridge, where she was protected, along with some other protestants. While the rebels were in possession of the town, she wrote a diary of every material event during that period. She tells us, "That when she landed, she found the streets crowded with rebels, who were constantly firing guns. The boatmen asked her, if she knew ever a Roman catholic? and she said she was acquainted with Mrs. Talbot; he then led her the back way to her house; but she found it shut; on which she went to the house of Mr. Hatchel, where she was well received. The 3d of June they made three protestants shoot a man in the Bull-ring. We received constant domiciliary visits from the rebels, who we thought would murder us ere they departed. The rebels paraded twice a day before our door, having fises, fiddles, and drums. It was a kind of regular tumult; every one was giving his opinion."

One Herring, a rebel captain, in the course of making domiciliary visits in quest of orangemen, entered Mr. Hatchel's house with a drawn sword at the head of an armed band of rebels. On finding Mr. Milward, he conveyed him to prison; but first informed Mr. Hatchel's family, that he would burn the house, if they concealed any more orangemen. On this Mr. King, who happened to be in the only room which they did not search, declared that no person should suffer on his account. He therefore retreated backwards to another house at some distance, and in doing so, was obliged to scale some walls, and to wade through a small stream, much swollen with the tide. He lay concealed some days in a wretched building, not better than a pig-sty; and was supplied with food by Mrs. Jacob. His wife, though she lodged near him, would not venture to approach him, lest the place of his retreat should be discovered. At length, the rebels who were active and incessant in their researches, discovered and committed him. These two gentlemen were on the point of being massacred the 20th of June, on the bridge of Wexford.

On the 4th of June, a papist of the name of Murphey, was condemned to be executed by heretics, for having given information against rebels. His executioners were Charles Jackson, Jonas Gurley, and Kenneth Mathewson, three protestant prisoners. At the time appointed a rebel guard assembled and conducted the victim and executioners to the place of execution. When they arrived

there the man was placed on his knees, and the rebels prayed for a few minutes. Mathewson was the first person called on, and he missed fire three times; the rebels then gave him another gun, with which he shot the man through the arm. Jackson was next called and threatened with instant death if he missed the mark; he fired and the victim instantly fell dead. Gurley was then ordered to fire at the body when it was prostrate on the ground. This horrid business took up about two hours, after which the executioners were marched back to prison.

Richard Leech, shoemaker, James Lett, Chandler, William Mooney, of Enniscorthy, and John Hawkins, were taken from Wexford, by a rebel guard, who was to convey them to Vinegar-hill camp. Finding they were so close near their own houses, they prevailed on a rebel to go before them and solicit their neighbours to come and use their friendly intercession for preserving their lives. The rebel guard, dreading that they might possibly escape, dispatched them at Lacken, threw them all into one grave before life was extinguished, and covered them with sods.

Four more loyalists of the names of Prescott, Willis, Cavenagh, and Furlong, were conveyed from Wexford gaol to Vinegar-hill on the 29th of June, and murdered there.

By this time the rebels were repulsed at Ross. The day their defeat was announced at Wexford, fifteen of the Wexford and ten Enniscorthy prisoners were ordered out of the gaol for execution. Charles Jackson was in the

gaol at that time, and he says, "When this notice was given I ran into my cell, got upon my knees in a dark corner, and pulled some straw over me; but a man of the name of Frendergast came in and drew me out. He dragged me into the yard, where I found my unhappy comrades on their knees. One of them, who had become a catholic, and was now imprisoned on a charge of being an orangeman, requested to have the priest with him before he died. This was immediately granted; and Father Corrin was sent for. He presently came, and to give effect to his admonition and intercession, he dressed himself in his cowl, and bore a crucifix in his hand: he held up the crucifix and all present fell on their knees; he conjured them, as they hoped for mercy to show it: he made every possible exertion to save all the prisoners; but it was in vain: he said he could witness that the Wexford people had never fired on them, or done them any injury; and that he could not say mass to them if they persisted in their cruel resolutions. At last he prevailed on them to return into the gaol the fifteen Wexford men; but for those from Enniscorthy, he could obtain no remission for them." They were therefore conveyed to Vinegar-hill, and executed.

At the breaking out of the rebellion Lord Kingborough, who commanded the North Cork militia, was in Dublin, and he determined to join his regiment, the head quarters of which was at Wexford. He proceeded by land to Arklow and took a boat there and sailed for Wexford.

When he arrived within a few miles of the mouth of the harbour they were met by a vessel full of rebels, who threatened to shoot them if they did not surrender, and they immediately made Lord Kingsborough, Capt. O'Hea, Lieut. Bourke, and the boat's crew prisoners, and carried them into Wexford. On landing, General Keugh conducted Lord Kingsborough to his own house, where he remained two days. He was then lodged in a private house, and had a guard of rebels placed over him. A few days before the king's troops arrived at Wexford, General Keugh was informed that a party of rebels were going to assassinate Lord Kingsborough. Keugh interfered and was fortunate enough to prevent them from executing their design.

The massacre on the bridge of Wexford was now determined on by the rebels, but we shall return to the different encampments, before we relate that dreadful event.

Battle of Newtown-barry.

The body of rebels encamped on Vinegar-hill, under Father Kearns, Captain Doyle, and Captain Redmond, marched to attack Newtown-barry early in the morning of the 1st of June. The yeomanry and soldiers in this beautiful little town were under severe and constant duty since the evacuation of Enniscorthy and Wexford, by the king's troops. Their strength was but small, to cope with

an army of fourteen or fifteen thousand rebels, being only two hundred and thirty of the King's county militia, with two battalion guns, commanded by Colonel L'Estrange; eighty yeomen infantry, including thirty volunteers; sixty Newtown-barry cavalry, Captain Kerr; twenty of the 4th dragoons, and Carlow cavalry, Captain Cornwall.

The picquet who were reconnoitring, commanded by Captain Kerr, brought intelligence that the rebels were approaching the town in two columns, on each side of the Slaney. The army and yeomen were immediately drawn up in a strong position to receive them, and were determined on selling the victory as dear as possible. The rebels took their station on a hill which commanded the town, and played on the army with a brass six-pounder, a howitzer, and some ship-swivels, without doing the least injury. The rebels perceiving this, they descended from the slate quarry, and the hills adjoining, confident that the town would be their own. Colonel L'Estrange, without firing on them, immediately drew his men out of the town, about a mile up the road leading to Carlow, ordering the cavalry to cover his retreat. The rebels entering the town, set many parts of it on fire, plundered the army's baggage, burst open the cellars, and drank spirits in such abundance, that becoming intoxicated, they ranged through the town, without any order. This confusion was much increased by the loyalists firing from several of the houses, against which the rebels soon bent all their fury. The yeomen, enraged at seeing their families and

property in so much danger, applied to Captain Kerr, to lead them on; saying that they would conquer or die. Captain Kerr then entreated Colonel L'Estrange to return and attack them with his cannon, alleging that as they were void of order and expecting no danger, they would soon be overpowered. The colonel complied with his earnest solicitations, and returning to the town, gave the rebels a few discharges of his cannon and musketry before they could form, which threw them into confusion. This was soon increased by a series of attacks in all directions, headed by the gallant Capt. Kerr, and the brave Major Marley, who volunteered with the King's county militia, and the rebels fled in all directions. The cavalry then charged them up the hills near four miles, taking down all before them. The rebels had near three hundred killed; and among them two priests who were dressed in their vestments, without any loss on the King's side, save one killed, and one of the Carlow cavalry wounded. A large body of them re-assembled on a hill near the town, but were charged and routed by the cavalry, who cut down many of them.

There were two cart-loads of cannister shot taken, and a quantity of guns, pikes, and other weapons which the rebels threw away in their flight.

The praise of this victory is due to the yeomanry who refused retreating to Carlow. It was a victory of the utmost importance to the kingdom, as it prevented a junction of the Carlow and Kildare rebels, who were expecting

to join them the following day, and revenge their defeat in Carlow on Friday the 25th of May before; for, had they gained Newtown-barry, all the country of Carlow and Kildare would have been in the possession of the rebels, who could with ease, from their superior numbers, penetrate into the interior of the King and Queen's counties, or have joined the Colliery rebels. The drawing off the troops out of the town, was the loss of some property; but it gave the army an opportunity of surprising the plunderers, and throwing them into confusion. The conduct of both officers and men, on this memorable day, was truly meritorious. The rebels, on their retreat to Vinegar-hill, burnt a great number of houses.



Battle of Ballycanow.

It has been observed that Father Murphey and Perry, with a numerous army of rebels, were to attack Gorey on all sides, at the same time. For this purpose Father Murphey arrived at Ballycanow, on the 1st of June, where he celebrated mass, intending to wait the arrival of Perry, on the opposite side.

Lieutenant Elliott was still in Gorey with his handful of men, expecting reinforcements from Dublin, but none had yet arrived. The picquet having been out towards Ballycanow reconnoitring, brought in an account that

the rebels were in possession of that village, and that the body seem destined for Gorey; on which the drums beat to arms, the trumpets sounded, and every preparation was made to meet them. Twenty infantry, commanded by Lieut. Elliott; Ballaghkeen cavalry, Lieut. White; Camolin cavalry, Lieut. Smith; and Gorey cavalry, Lieutenant Woodroose, marched out to meet the enemy. The rebel scouts descried them descending Ballymenane-hill, and formed in a field outside the town ten deep; several hiding behind the hedges to fire on the army as they passed. Advancing about a mile, the rebels formed in the road, and opened a heavy fire of musketry. This was returned by a steady and regular fire from the militia, particularly the Antrim, which brought down a great number of rebels; it was kept up for almost an hour, when the rebels began to be dismayed at seeing so many of their men fall, and perceiving the army still approach in slow and regular order, without the loss of a man, they broke and fled in all directions. The yeoman cavalry, notwithstanding repeated orders from Lieut. Elliott, delayed too long, to pursue them, otherwise a great slaughter might have been made: however upwards of one hundred and fifty were killed in this action, and a great number wounded, many of whom crept into ditches and corn-fields, unable to go further, where they expired; and the dogs of the country, after some time, carried their arms and legs from ditch to ditch, and from field to field. After the rebels were defeated, the troops entered Ballycanow, and destroyed

a number of deserted houses, which were known to belong to rebels, then in arms. This little victorious army then returned safely to Gorey, with upwards of one hundred horses, some guns, pikes, two green standards, and other spoil, taken from the rebels, without the loss of a man. Thus were the rebels defeated in two actions this day, and it prevented the intended attack on the next day.

The rebels in this engagement, as in many others, elevated their guns too much for execution. They retreated to the hill of Corrigra.

As the troops were returning to Glarry, two yeomen observed a motion among some bushes as if there were some persons hiding there; one of them fired into them and the shot was answered by a loud cry from a child; the other yeomen then commanded the suspected persons to come forward, when a poor woman and eight small children, one of whom was wounded, came trembling out of the bushes, and informed the yeomen that they had secreted themselves for safety.

Battle of Tubberville.

On the 3d of June the long and anxiously expected army, under Major-general Loftus, arrived at Gorey. It consisted of the Dunbarton, Fencibles, Londonderry and Armagh militia, the Tyrone and Suffolk light companies,

a detachment of the Antrim militia, part of the Antient Briton cavalry, with their commander Sir Watkin Wynne, and the Arklow yeoman cavalry and infantry. The sight of fifteen hundred brave troops and five pieces of cannon, filled every loyal breast with confidence, and not a doubt was entertained but the rebels would be immediately defeated and dispersed. On the following morning General Loftus made the necessary arrangements, for attacking the enemy, and the military were drawn up in the streets of Gorey.

When Perry arrived at the hill of Corrigrue, and heard of Father Murphy's defeat at Ballycanow, he was determined to force Gorey, knowing if he could effect this, it would open a communication with the county of Wicklow rebels; he therefore immediately sent an express to Vinegar-hill and Wexford for a reinforcement, as he thought it advisable for the two camps to form a junction, and their united forces to operate against Gorey on Monday morning. Father Kearns and Redmond adopted the plan, and ten thousand men were sent to Corrigrue-hill the same night; Perry himself had upwards of seven thousand. Though they were now a formidable body, messengers were sent through the country, desiring every person to repair to camp. On the following day, all the people between Corrigrue and Wexford arrived, and along with them part of the Shelmalier cavalry well mounted, which had deserted with Edward Roach, their perma-

nent serjeant, a few days before. Thus great preparations were making, on both sides.

At ten o'clock the military were marched out of town in two divisions to surround the hill ; not having a reconnoitring party out, they did not know the rebels were advancing against them. General Loftus, with his division, consisting of one thousand foot, two battalion guns, and some corps of yeomen cavalry, marched to the left, to surround the hill on one side ; Colonel Walpole, turning to the right, marched through Clough, with two hundred foot, three battalion guns, the Antient Britons, and a few corps of yeomen cavalry, intending to surround the hill on the other side. Thus they divided and marched without an advanced guard, which in cases of this kind ought not to be neglected, as it prevents the party being surprised by the enemy, before they are in readiness to receive them, as the event of this day will fully prove. The advanced guard of the rebels, on perceiving Colonel Walpole's division meeting them, galloped back with the intelligence ; and Father John Murphey, who was commander in chief, being at the head of the rebel column, ordered them to halt, and placing all the men, who had guns, inside of the ditches and behind the hedges, drew up his cannon in the centre of the road, waiting the arrival of the army, being certain of success from their numbers, as they amounted to near twenty thousand. Colonel

Walpole's division still advanced, apprehending no danger, until they arrived at a place called Tubberneering, where the rebels were posted: but nothing could equal their astonishment, when the rebels started up on both sides of the road, and opened a most tremendous fire of musketry on them, under cover of the hedges. When the action began, Edward Fitzgerald, a rebel chief, was a mile behind; he instantly turned his horse into the ditch, leaped into the fields, and galloped to the front of the action, proclaiming as he passed along, "Now my brave boys, surround them!" The soldiers formed as well as they could in the road, which was very narrow with high hedges on both sides, and fought gallantly, having killed near one hundred of them in the fields. Colonel Walpole was killed early in the action; he received a ball in the thigh, and in a moment another through the head, by which means this brave soldier fell, a victim to his own rashness. The army now seeing their colonel fall, and the rebels proceeding to surround them, fought retreating into Gorey, lest the enemy should intercept them, leaving behind their cannon, the horses of which were killed, and with difficulty got off their baggage and ammunition carts. From thence they retreated to Arklow, followed by men, women, and children, who had returned. The rebels entered Gorey, and the same evening took their station on Gorey-hill.

General Loftus had marched about two miles when he heard the firing. He was accompanied by some yeomen

who knew the country ; they informed him that they thought, by the firing, the army was retreating to Gorey ; but he expecting Colonel Walpole would defeat them, proceeded on his route to intercept their retreat. Marching through Ballycanow, and taking a circuit of nine miles and arriving at the scene of action, he found that the army had been defeated and obliged to retreat. The body of Colonel Walpole stripped to his shirt, and about forty of the soldiers, mangled with rebel pikes, were lying on the ground ; but none of the rebels, who were killed were there, as the rebels had carried away their killed and wounded, lest the army should know how many were slain, and be intimidated thereby. Here General Loftus ordered many fires to be set that were in the fields, lest the rebels should get them again. He then followed the march of the rebels towards Gorey, and coming within sight of them, he found them posted on Gorey-hill, at the foot of which the town is built. Convinced that he could neither attack them, with a prospect of success, nor pass by them into the town without great hazard, he retreated to Carnew, in doing which he was saluted with a fire of the rebel artillery from the hill, whither they had drawn the cannon taken from Colonel Walpole's army. General Loftus thinking Carnew an unsafe post, though at the head of twelve hundred men, he abandoned that part of the country to the rebels, and retreated nine miles farther, to Tullow.

The rebels, now secure of their conquest, began to dress food, having killed several fat bullocks and sheep; they then began to plunder the town of Gorey, carrying away all the goods, furniture, and every thing of value they met with. They burst open the cellars, and most of them got intoxicated, and were lying in the town and their camp, incapable of defence; so that one hundred soldiers might have destroyed them all.

After this victory, the rebels might have proceeded to Arklow and Wicklow, which towns would have been an easy conquest; but the hope of plundering Gorey and its vicinity induced them to continue five days, during which time every excess and enormity was committed. They destroyed the church and many protestant houses, and murdered such of the inmates as could not make their escape. They burned the two elegant seats of Messrs. Rams, at Clonaltin and Ramfort.

The rebels also proceeded to Carnew and plundered and destroyed many houses in that town.

A drummer of the Antrim militia, was taken by the rebels, who carried him to the town of Gorey, and desired him to beat it; but he said it should never be beaten for rebels and immediately jumped through both its heads. The inhuman monsters instantly perforated his body with pikes.

Battle of Ross.

It has been observed that a body of rebels, under Beauchamp Bagenal Harvey, encamped on Carrickbyrne-hill, for the purpose of attacking Ross. They remained there four days, in which time great numbers flocked to them, and they plundered, robbed or destroyed all the protestant houses in that neighbourhood. They also sent detachments of rebel pikemen round the country to seize all the loyalists, who were not fortunate enough to escape, and bring them to the camp, where they were tried by a rebel court-martial: several of these unfortunate loyalists were tried and condemned on the 1st of June, and taken to the place of execution and shot. After this a number of them were put into the house and barn of Mr. King, of Scullabogue, under Carrickbyrne-hill, and others were taken into the rebel ranks.

On the morning of the 4th of June they marched from Carrickbyrne, leaving a guard of upwards of three hundred, with John Murphey and other two rebel captains; and the same day took their station on Corbet-hill, the seat of Edward Murphey, Esq. within a mile of the town of Ross. Here they got wine and spirits, and were in a state of intoxication during the night, intending to attack the town early the following morning, with a force of about twenty thousand men.

Fortunately Lord Mounstjoy, with the Dublin county militia from Cork, arrived at Ross this evening, which greatly rejoiced the whole garrison, whose actual strength was at this time as follows : a detachment of the 5th and 9th dragoons, commanded by Captain Irvine ; the Mid-Lothian fencible cavalry, Lieutenant-colonel Bowles ; a detachment of the British horse artillery, Captain Bloomfield ; a detachment of Irish flying artillery, Captain Thornhill ; the 4th flank battalion, Lieutenant-colonel Stewart ; detachments of the Meath, Clare, and Donegal regiments of militia ; the Dublin county militia ; and the Ross yeoman cavalry and infantry. Major-general Johnson, commander-in-chief, Major-general Bussell, second in command.

In the evening the army picket saw the rebels approaching, and taking possession of Corbet-hill ; they gave three cheers and discharged a field-piece at them ; but as there were evening guns fired, the garrison took no notice of it. The whole garrison was drawn up on the quay, at the evening parade, when an express arrived to General Johnson, from the officer of the guard, that the rebels were approaching the town in great force. The whole army was immediately marched off to meet the enemy, but General Johnson, thinking it too late in the evening to commence an attack, the army was posted at the different passes, and a strong guard being posted to watch the motions of the enemy, they stood under arms at their

different stations until morning, observing the most profound silence.

In the morning, Bagenal Harvey held a council of war, when it was determined to summons the town. He therefore dispatched the following summons to Major-general Johnson :

" Sir, — As a friend to humanity, I request you will surrender the town of New-Rose to the Wexford forces, now assembled against it; your resistance will but provoke rapine and plunder to the ruin of the innocent. Flushed with victory, the Wexford forces now insurmountable and irresistible, will not be controlled if they meet with resistance. To prevent the total ruin of all property in the town, I urge you to a speedy surrender — a surrender which you will be forced to in a few hours, with loss and bloodshed; as you are surrounded on all sides, your answer is required in a few hours. Citizen Furlong comes with this letter, and will bring the answer. I am, Sir, &c. B. B. Harvey,"

Camp, Corbet-hill, June 5, 1798.

When Furlong advanced to the guard, with his flag of truce, he was shot, the summons found in his pocket and forwarded. The situation of the Dublin county militia was very distressing; they were nearly worn down by hard marching, enfeebled with hunger and thirst, without time to refresh themselves, and in this condition had to oppose a cruel enemy.

The advanced guard of our army had so much curiosity, that they crept under cover of the hedges, to take a view of the rebel army; their appearance was very disorderly, some walking about singing songs, others talking and all of them in a state of intoxication. When they had satisfied their curiosity they raised their muskets and gave them a volley; hundreds of the rebels immediately fired, in every direction, but knew not at what, the soldiers having crept back unperceived. A messenger was instantly dispatched to Harvey, with information that the army was surrounding them; some of their men having been killed, and others dying of their wounds; on which he ordered them to pour forth on all sides, which they did, and was near intercepting a party of Mid-Lothian cavalry, which had been out reconnoitring, in their retreat into the town.

Between three and four o'clock the action commenced, the picquet and out-posts, though drove into the town, kept up a smart fire on the enemy. We will here insert an account of the battle, which was given by an eye-witness.

“The advanced rebels, driving before them a number of cattle, to throw our army into confusion, which was in some measure prevented, by a few discharges of grape-shot. The action commenced by the 4th flank battalion; indeed such a close well-directed fire I never saw, being an idle spectator for upwards of two hours and a half. About seven o'clock the army began to retreat in every

direction. I commanded a six-pounder field piece. The rebels came pouring into the town like a flood, and human blood began to flow down the streets. Though hundreds were blown to pieces by our grape shot, yet thousands behind them, being intoxicated with drinking during the night, and void of fear, rushed upon us, as if courting their fate. The cavalry were now ordered to make a charge through them, when a terrible carnage ensued; they were cut down like grass; but the pikemen being called to the front, and our swords being too short to reach them; obliged our horse to retreat, which put us in some confusion. We kept up the action till about half past eight; which was maintained with such obstinacy on both sides, that it was doubtful who would keep the field. They then began to burn and destroy the town, it was on fire in many places in about fifteen minutes. By this time the rebels advanced as far as the main-guard, where there was a most bloody conflict, with the assistance of two ship guns placed in the street, they killed a great number of them, and beat them back for some time. The Dublin county regiment, headed by their colonel, made another attack on the rebels; the action being now revived in all quarters of the town with double fury, many heroes fell, and among them the brave Mountjoy, which so exasperated his regiment, that they fought like furies—now indeed was the scene bloody. Our forces the third time being overpowered, by the weight of such a body

pouring down upon us, we retreated beyond the bridge, when General Johnson came galloping up crying "soldiers, I will lay my bones this day in Ross, will you let me lie alone?"

"Major Vesey, of the Dublin county, the next in command to Lord Mountjoy, led his men over the bridge again, exhorting them to revenge, for the loss of their colonel. The whole brigade (except some who fled to Waterford) being led on by General Johnson, (as brave a commander as ever drew a sword,) were determined to take the town, to conquer or to die. Again we opened a tremendous fire on the rebels, which was as fiercely returned. We re-took the cannon which was taken from the king's forces in a former engagement, and turned them on the rebels. The gun I commanded being called to the main-guard, shocking was it to see the dreadful carnage that was there, it continued for half an hour, it was obstinate and bloody the thundering of cannon shook the town, the windows were shivered in pieces with the dreadful concussion; I believe there were five hundred lying in the main-street. The rebels were so desperate that they frequently came within a few yards of our guns. One fellow advanced before his comrades, and taking off his hat and wig, thrust them up the cannon's mouth, the length of his arm, calling to the rest, "blood-and-ounds, come on boys, her mouth is stopped." At that instant the unfortunate savage was blown to atoms.

The action was doubtful from four in the morning, till four in the afternoon, when the rebels gave way in every quarter, and shortly after fled precipitately in every direction, leaving behind them all their cannon, baggage, provisions, wine, whiskey, brandy, &c. It was past five before we finally routed them; when they made the best of their way to Carrickbyrne. As nearly as can be computed, the rebels had two thousand six hundred killed, and a great number wounded, many of them mortally. I know soldiers who fired one hundred and twenty rounds of ball-cartridge, and I fired twenty-one rounds of canister-shot, with the field piece I commanded."

General Johnson was still in the hottest part of the action, he had three horses shot under him. He cautioned those that were too forward, and encouraged those who were behind. Being once in a very dangerous situation, a soldier warned him of it, on which he replied, "that ball was never made by a rebel, that is to kill General Johnson."

Mr. Michael McCormick, an inhabitant of Ross, who had formerly been in the army, fought gallantly during the engagement, having on his head a brass helmet. He was constantly seen in the warmest part of the action, encouraging the soldiers, and rendering the greatest service to General Johnson. Wherever a soldier attempted to shelter himself, he would find him out, and drive him

into the action again. During the engage Mr. McCormick's wife was of great service in mixing wine and water for the soldiers, many of whom was almost exhausted with hard fighting, the heat of the day, and the town, which was on fire in many places.

The loss of his Majesty's troops was one colonel, one ensign, four serjeants, three drummers, eighty-one rank and file, and fifty-four horses killed; one captain, one drummer, fifty-four rank and file, and five horses wounded; one captain, three lieutenants, one ensign, two serjeants, two corporals, seventy-two rank and file, and four horses missing. Colonel Mountjoy, who fell in the first onset, was greatly lamented.

The rebels left fourteen swivel guns and four cannon on ship carriages, behind them, which fell into the hands of the victors, besides a number of guns, pikes, &c. also a variety of standards and colours, which were destroyed.

It was so late when the action was over, that the dead could not be buried. The next morning the town presented an hideous scene: it lay in ruins—no such thing as walking without climbing over the slain. The weather being excessive warm, and the unfortunate wretches in such a perspiration when killed, that, when they were dragging them to interment, the stench was intolerable: being so very filthy in themselves, they looked horrible; their countenances also were writhed in a thousand ugly forms; and as many of them died drunk and in wroth, they had a frightful appearance. There were thrown into

one gravel-pit, nearly one thousand of those unfortunate men. In the pockets of some of the slain, the following oath was found :

“ I —, do solemnly swear, by our Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered for us on the cross, and by the Blessed Virgin Mary, that I will burn, destroy, and murder, all heretics, up to my knees in blood.—So help me God.”

We will now relate some of the incidents which happened during and subsequent to this bloody engagement:—When the troops were retreating into the town, Captain Irvine's horse was killed, and it fell on his leg; in this situation he lay until the rebels had advanced within a few yards of him, when an artillery horse fortunately passed by, and he caught hold of the traces; and was dragged into the town, by which means his life was saved.

As soon as the main body of the rebels entered the town, they set fire to many houses in different parts of it; not less than two hundred houses having been consumed. A great body of them attacked the main guard, but were repulsed with great slaughter, by serjeant Hamilton and sixteen men, with two ship guns. He had a quantity of ammunition under his protection, and when the troops retreated over the bridge, an officer desired him to remove it to the other side of the river; but he replied, “ That he never would quit the spot whilst he had life.” William Dowseley, two of his sons, and three other men, perished in his house, which is near the main guard; and

opposite to a lane where parties of rebels collected for the purpose of surprising and storming it, kept up a constant fire upon them, and killed near fifty of them.

An artillery man, of the royal army, a prisoner of the rebels, was fastened to one of their cannon, for the purpose of serving it. A rebel of the name of Forrestal, made him discharge it at the main guard; and the poor fellow elevated it too high, for which Forrestal shot him through the head.

The rebels dragged a man of the name of Dowfely, into the street, and stabbed him with pikes and left him; they returned in a few minutes and stabbed him again. He was then taken to a house, where he recovered by medical assistance.

The rebels attempted to gain the Rofs river, but General Johnson, seeing that all communications between him and government would be cut off by that measure, ordered Captain Hill, of the navy, with some gun-boats, to destroy all the boats in that river, which he did, to the number of one hundred and seventeen. Though the gun-boats were well armed, and had on board each a party of soldiers, the rebels never suffered one of them to pass without firing upon them. One of the gun-boats ran aground, and a number of rebels made several daring attempts to take her; but the other boats came to her assistance and succeeded in beating the rebels off; but not before four men were killed and some wounded, belonging to the gun-boats.

A number of small vessels were assembled at Fethard, then in possession of the rebels, General Johnson thinking they might be intended for the rebel leaders to make their escape in, ordered the gun-boats under Capt. Hill, to destroy them ; which he did effectually, and in that service sustained a heavy fire from the rebels on shore.

Massacre at Scullabogue.

Early in the morning of the action at Ross, one of the rebels who had fled from battle, came galloping to Scullabogue-house, where three hundred rebels were guarding the protestants, which had been made prisoners. When he came within hearing, he shouted " destroy the prisoners! destroy the prisoners! our friends are all cut off at Ross." John Murphey, who was captain of the rebel guard, told him they should not be destroyed, without written orders from General Harvey. About an hour after this, another messenger arrived, proclaiming, " our friends are all destroyed at Ross, murder the prisoners." Murphey made him the same answer, and would not suffer them to be molested. A third express arrived about ten o'clock in the morning, crying out, " the priest has sent orders to put all the prisoners to death." The rebel guard immediately stripped off their coats, and prepared for murdering the prisoners as deliberately as if going to

their daily labour. After saying their usual prayers, crossing and blessing themselves, they divided in two divisions: one party proceeded to the dwelling-house to murder those that were there, and the other party went to the barn. While one party were leading the prisoners out of the dwelling-house, and butchering them in the most savage manner, the other division surrounded the barn, in a most outrageous manner, placed ladders against the walls to stand on, and set the thatch on fire all round. The poor prisoners within, with the most lamentable cries, entreated for mercy, and pressing forward to the back-door, caught hold of it, and endeavoured to force their way out. The rebels immediately crowded to the back door, cut, stabbed, and mangled their hands and arms in such a shocking manner, that for some time they were prevented: at length the weight of the people behind, pressing upon their mangled friends in front, made the door give way; but the barbarous rebels, as the poor prisoners rushed out, thrust them in again with their pikes, while others were busy in tying bundles of straw, and forcing them into the barn, to increase the fire and the pains of these innocent people. Some of the rebels, who had guns, were loading and firing in upon them, while others were cruelly piercing their bodies through with pikes.

There was a woman and a child in the barn, who belonged to a soldier of the North Cork militia, who was killed at Oulart-hill; the finding no way to escape with

life, endeavoured to save the child ; with this intent, she wraped her cloak round the infant, and threw it out of the barn door, thinking they could not be so cruel as to put it to death ; but one of the wicked pike-men thrust his pike through the poor little innocent, and, giving a great shout, cried “ d—n you, you little heretic, get in there,” and instantly flung it into the fire. Another child, whose parents had been either shot or burned, crept unperceived under the corner of the door, and lay outside the house, along the wall ; when the confusion had, in some degree abated, the poor child was discovered by a most inhuman fellow, who thrust his pike through its body ; the child gave a violent shriek, and expired in dreadful convulsions.

After finishing their horrid business at the barn, they immediately proceeded to the dwelling-house, to make the tragedy more complete. Dead bodies were already strewed round the lawn before the hall door ; others were on their knees crying for mercy, but in vain. There were two hundred and twenty-four prisoners, thirty-seven of whom were shot in front of the dwelling-house, one hundred and eighty-four burnt to death in the barn, and three escaped, viz : Richard Grandy, Loftus Frizzel, and one Lett. Amongst those unfortunate victims who suffered, were twenty women and children.

On the 9th of June, there were one hundred and eighty four skeletons cleared out of the barn, thrown into a hole near the place, and slightly covered over with sods.

Thomas Shee and Patrick Pendergast, servants who would not consent to the murder of their protestant masters, were confined at Scullabogue, though Romanists, and suffered.

William Rian, a catholic farmer, a few miles from Scullabogue, had a daughter who was a favourite of a gentleman at Duncannon. The rebel guards searched for her, thinking they might extract from her some important information relative to the plans of the loyalists, and dreading that her and her friends, who were all Romanists, might betray some of their secrets; but not finding her, they were of opinion that her sister Eleanor would answer their purpose as well; they therefore carried her to the barn at Scullabogue. Her father followed soon after, to entreat the rebels to liberate her; they would not listen to him, but put him into the barn to her. His wife, being uneasy at the long delay of her husband, followed them, and the rebels put her into the barn also, where they all perished together.

William Johnson, a very old man, a Romanist, shared a similar fate. He gained a livelihood by playing on the bagpipes, and was so unfortunate as to incur the vengeance of the rebels, by playing the tune of " Croppies, lie down."

William Neil, another Romanist, who suffered there, was by trade a tailor, and had worked for some time in the garrison of Duncannon. Having occasion to return to Camolin, of which he was a native, he procured the pass

of General Fawcet, for his protection, but it turned out to be the means of his destruction; he was intercepted by the rebels, who considered his pass as a mark of loyalty, and they committed him to the barn, with his son Daniel, who happened to be with him, and they both perished in the flames.

There were a great number of persons concerned in shooting the unfortunate men in the house and burning the barn, each of whom vied with the other, who should put the greatest number to death. Fardy, Sennoth, Redmond, and Miskella, who trampled on the dead and dying, and behaved otherwise in a most barbarous manner, stand most noted amongst those sanguinary heroes. They obtained the title of "the true born Romanists." Fardy has, very justly, since been hanged at Scullabogue. After ending this horrid massacre, they proceeded towards Ross, (exulting in their wicked achievements) but the formidable army, in which they trusted had been entirely defeated, as has been related.

As they marched to join their brother rebels, they met multitudes of the wounded returning, some crawling along as well as they could, others on horses and carts; some were shot through different parts of the body; others with broken arms; legs, and thighs, and others with dreadful contusions. Going on further they met the main body retreating in the greatest confusion; bringing with them carts full of killed and wounded.

They took their station on Carrikkburne-hill that night, and several of them stole home, and never joined them more; particularly those from Barony-Forth, who, though a race of cowards, were cruel in the extreme.

The wounded were carried to Fookes's-mill, where a number of surgeons were sent to attend them. They converted six houses into hospitals, and had fourteen milch cows grazing on Long-greague for their use; yet, notwithstanding all their attention, a great number of them died.

The next morning Bagenal Harvey was in the greatest distress of mind, when he beheld Scullabogue, especially the barn, where the victims were in every attitude; some were standing up against the walls, others lay in heaps in each others arms; their bodies looked frightful, being burned to a cinder. He turned from the scene with horror, and told the rebels, "That there were as innocent people burned there, as ever lived, and their conquests for liberty was at an end, if they continued their cruelty." He declared the following to a friend he met with: "I now see my folly in embarking with these people; if they succeed, I shall be murdered by them; if they are defeated I shall be hanged."

Bagenal Harvey observing the sanguinary mind of the people, he issued a proclamation on the following day, denouncing the penalty of death, against such persons as should murder their prisoners.

Bagenal Harvey continued in the greatest distress of mind, and expressed his abhorrence at the inhumanity of the Roman catholic priests; which they however soon repented, by assembling their flocks, and pointing out to them, the impropriety of having a protestant for their commander in chief. By this means they so prejudiced the deluded multitude against Harvey, that he was then in a most critical situation. On the 7th of June, the whole rebel camp removed from Carrickbyrne to Slievekeelter, within five miles of New-Ross. Here they continued their cruelties to such loyalists as fell into their hands, and Father Philip Roche, a man of huge stature and boisterous manners, had influence enough to get Harvey deposed of his generalship, and himself chosen commander in his place. Indeed such was Harvey's conduct, in consequence of the cruelties inflicted on the prisoners, that the priests were apprehensive that if they did not exert themselves, they would lose their consequence among the people; and having gained their wish in removing Harvey from the chief command, they strenuously exhorted them to persevere in their glorious work. Father Murphey, of Bannow, was very zealous in the cause: in a speech after the battle of Ross, he delivered himself as follows:

" Brethren, you see you are victorious every where: that the balls of the heretics fly about you without hurting you; that few of you have fallen, whilst thousands

of the heretics are dead ; and the few that have fallen, was from deviating from our cause, and want of faith ; that this visibly is the work of God, who is determined that the heretics, should now be exterminated, and the true Catholic religion be established."

Father Philip Roche, their new commander, collected a number of bullets, which, he assured the rebels, he had caught in the battle of Ross, and that he had distributed several to his brethren, when in the heat of the action, who loaded their pieces with them. He would also he said, give them such gospels to hang about their necks, as would make the person who wore it, proof against the power of heretical artillery. The price was half-a-crown to the better sort of people ; but as the poor people were so zealous, he would only charge them sixpence.

Battle of Arklow.

During the five days the rebels were encamped on Gorey-hill, a number of atrocities were committed. They then began to think they had wasted too much time, knowing that if they could gain Arklow, it would open a communication with the Wicklow and Kildare rebels, and that an attack might be made on the metropolis soon after ; they therefore resolved to try their strength on that town, for which purpose messengers were sent to the

different encampments at Wexford and Vinegar-hill, ordering all persons to repair to the camp at Gorey-hill immediately.

On the 8th of June, the rebel picquet saw a party of the king's army reconnoitring at Coolgreny, and instantly returned with information that the king's troops were advancing against the town. In consequence of this, the prisoners, twenty-one in number, were ordered to be murdered; but Bagenal Harvey's proclamation arrived in time to save their lives.

Early in the morning of the 9th of June, the rebel camp was crowded from all quarters, and masses were celebrated. As they were not allowed to murder the prisoners, they made caps of brown paper and coarse linen, melted pitch and besmeared the inside of them, and put them on the prisoner's heads.

About twelve o'clock the rebels, to the number of twenty-six thousand, of whom near five thousand were armed with guns, the rest with pikes, with three pieces of artillery, marched for Arklow, under the command of Anthony Perry, who had appointed Esmond Kyan captain of the artillery. When they had arrived within two miles of Arklow, they were ordered to halt by one of their officers. Those who were armed with guns, were ordered to the front, and the pike-men were placed in the rear. These arrangements being made, and the plan of attack agreed upon, they were ordered to advance; but

they evinced the most disorderly disposition imaginable ; for their officers were obliged to drive them on before them, and in this manner they proceeded towards Arklow.

If the rebels had made their appearance two days before, they would, in all probability, have carried the town ; but fortunately the garrison was reinforced that morning by the Durham fencibles, a brave and well disciplined regiment, which strengthened it, and quieted the fears of the inhabitants.

General Needham, the commander in chief of the garrison, was quartered at the house of Mr. O'Neill, in Arklow, where he had ordered a great breakfast for him and his guests. Two officers belonging to the Durham regiment, happened to be passing by the house and were mistaken by the servant and informed that breakfast was ready for them and their associates. This intelligence being communicated, the Durham officers immediately repaired to the house and devoured the whole breakfast. Captain Wallington remaining behind the rest, assembled about him the drivers of the carriages in which the regiment had travelled from Dublin, to pay them their dues. The general at length arrived with his guests, and was astonished when he found his lodgings occupied with a crowd of wrangling coachmen ; but soon being informed of the fate of his breakfast, he burst into a rage and drove out the intruders with such fury, that they, with their

paymaster, tumbled one over another in the street, in their haste to escape.

The garrison then consisted of detachments of the 4th and 5th dragoon guards; the Antient British fencible cavalry; a small detachment of the Royal Irish artillery; the Durham fencible infantry; the Cavan battalion; detachments of the Armagh, Antrim, North Cork, and Londonderry militia; the North and South Arklow cavalry; the Camolin, Gorey, Coolgreny, and Castletown cavalry, and a number of loyalists in coloured cloaths, making in the whole upwards of fifteen hundred men.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, information was received that the rebels were advancing towards the town. The drums immediately beat to arms and the troops repaired to their different stations, and every preparation was made to meet the enemy.

General Needham then drew up his forces in a most judicious manner. The Cavan battalion with some yeomen infantry, under Colonel Maxwell, extended from the centre of the town to the Fishery; on the left was the sea; on the right the Durham regiment was drawn in front of their encampment, with two field-pieces; detachments of the Armagh and others were placed on the right of the Durham; and the Antrim with other detachments, and all the loyalists were stationed in the barrack. The cavalry were stationed beyond the bridge, on the Dublin road.

The rebels endeavoured to surround the army, and by that means to have overpowered it by their great superiority of numbers; but the excellent disposition made by General Needham, sufficiently convinced them of the impracticability of that measure. When they had advanced as far as the Charter School, Captain Elliot, who was posted there, retreated into the town, on which the rebels drew their cannon to the right, on an eminence that commands the town. The Dunbarton fencibles were then ordered out in front of the Armagh, to line the hedges on each side of the road, where the rebels were advancing. A smart fire was maintained between the rebels and Dunbartons for some time, when they were ordered to retreat and join the Armagh, which they accomplished. The rebels then set fire to different parts of the town to annoy the army with the smoke; but the wind shifted and drove it on themselves. On the retreat being founded, the rebels pursued, and sent forth most dreadful yells, and one of their officers, waving his hat, called out, "Come on, my boys, the town is our own." At that instant his horse was shot and himself wounded, on which he fell as if killed. A short time after he was observed by some of the soldiers and instantly shot dead. The rebels followed him, but on receiving a well directed fire of musketry and grape shot, they fell back a considerable distance. They then extended a long line in front of the Durham regiment, but in a most confused manner, endeavouring to turn their left flank; but the Durhams keeping up a

constant well directed fire, they were unable to accomplish it. Some of the rebels who had guns, getting behind the hedges, annoyed the army considerably, where their artillery played briskly on the town; but serjeant Shepherd, of the Royal Irish artillery, who was taken prisoner at the Three-rocks and compelled to serve in their army, elevated them so high that the balls fell a mile on the other side of the town. He loaded the gun once with grape-shot and turned the gun a little on one side and killed near twenty of the rebels. One of their officers observing this, galloped up and would have immediately killed Shepherd, had not Kyan, the captain of the artillery, interposed and insisted that it was the army cannon that did the execution. He was then ordered to load with ball and batter the town, but he, watching his opportunity, loaded it with grape shot, knowing it could do no injury, at the same time destroying their ammunition. Two of the officers then went towards the town, to observe the execution of the cannon, and finding Shepherd was not favouring their cause, returned and informed Kyan of it, on which he levelled the cannon himself, and one of them in such a direction, that the ball shivered the carriage of one of the Durham guns to pieces, and killed four men; another ball struck the top of a house in the town and did some damage. All this time our army was playing on them with considerable effect, having killed a great number of them.

Another body of the rebels made an attempt to gain the lower end of the town, and advanced by the sea side ; but in that quarter they were received with great spirit by the cavalry under Sir Watkin Wynne, who made a most desperate charge on them. They then proceeded in great force to a road that led to the middle of the town, and endeavoured to enter it ; but a serjeant and twelve men who had been stationed there, kept up a constant fire on them, and obliged them to fall back. A body of them attempted to ford the river, but this pass was well defended, and they were obliged to relinquish it.

Father Murphey, of Ballycanow, was not in the beginning of the action, having stopped at Coolgreney : when he was coming to the attack he met a number of rebels retreating ; he drove them to the battle again, and assured them that he could defeat the king's army with the dust of the road. When he came into the battle, he shewed the rebels some musket balls, which he said he had caught in his hands as they flew from the guns of the enemy. Father Murphey, after many escapes fell himself by a cannon shot, his bowels having been torn out, whilst waving a standard in his hand. The rebels who followed him, immediately retreated in great haste from that quarter, swearing as they went along " that the priest himself was down !"

The hottest part of the action was maintained by the Durham fencibles, commanded by Colonel Skerret, to

whose determined bravery the country is indebted for this victory. Colonel Maxwell, of the Cavan battalion, acted in a most spirited manner, as did also all the officers and men.

The action commenced about four o'clock and continued till half past eight, when they retreated in confusion to Gorey. It was not thought prudent to pursue the rebels, as it was then the close of the evening, otherwise a great slaughter would have been made. The military stood under arms till four o'clock next morning, when they cast entrenchments round the camp, expecting another attack.

The loss of the Durham regiment was about twenty privates killed and wounded: that of the other regiments was very trifling, though they were warmly engaged for a considerable time.

It was dreadful to view the field of battle; men and horses lay dead together; heads and limbs were strewed all round. As the rebels were not pursued they carried off a great many of their killed and wounded, so that their loss could not be ascertained, but would amount to upwards of five hundred. The body of Father Murphy was found by some of the troops, and Lord Mount Norris ordered his head to be struck off, and his body thrown into a burning house, exclaiming, "Let his body go to where his soul is!"

In their retreat to Gorey, they were very vehement at the conduct of Sergeant Shephard, and some of them would

have killed him, had not Esmond Kyan again interposed and saved his life. After this defeat they were not so cruel to their prisoners ; but a few days after, Captain Redmond had them tried by a court-martial. Those who were condemned were immediately sent to gaol at Wexford ; and the others were compelled to serve in the rebel army.

After the rebels were defeated at Arklow, a party of them, joined by some of the Kildare, Wicklow, and Carlow insurgents, formed an encampment on Limerick-hill, near Gorey, and on the 17th of June, they proceeded to Mountpleasant-hill, near the village of Tinnehely, resolving to commence an attack on Hacketstown next morning, which at that time was only protected by about four hundred yeomen, and thirty of the Antrim regiment of militia. At this time his Majesty's forces were in motion, by order of Lieutenant-general Lake, their commander in chief, in order to surround and entirely cut off the rebel forces which were concentrating on Vinegar-hill. For this purpose, a brigade under Lieutenant-general Dundas, arrived in Hacketstown, and soon after information was received, that the rebels had taken post on Mountpleasant-hill, and were burning Tinnehely. General Dundas then directed Colonel Lord Roden, to take the command of his own cavalry, and some yeomanry corps ; and reconnoitre the position of the enemy. On their approach to the rebel's position, they discharged some field pieces at Lord Roden's party ; on which he

sent to General Dundas for orders; who immediately desired him and his party to retreat to town, lest they should be attacked and overpowered by numbers. The rebels in the night, instead of attacking Hacketstown, as they intended, marched off to Kilcavan-hill, near Carnew, where they were attacked the following day by the forces under General Dundas, assisted by those under General Loftus, from Tullow. To surround and oblige the whole body of rebels to surrender, was thought by many a matter of easy accomplishment, but General Lake judged it not practicable; for, after a cannonade on both sides, with little execution, and tremendous shouts of defiance on the part of the rebels, with their hats raised on pikes, General Dundas retired to Carnew. The rebel army was commanded by Garret Byrne, of Ballymanus, who directed his march the same evening to Vinegar-hill.



Re-taking of Vinegar-hill and Enniscorthy.

Vinegar-hill was now the grand rendezvous of the rebels, who had fortified it in such a manner that they imagined it to be impregnable, and that all the troops belonging to Great Britain and Ireland would not be able to dislodge them. We have before said that the troops under the command of General Lake were in motion to

surround this hill, accordingly a column under Generals Johnson and Euface arrived at their station on the right of the hill and encamped about a mile distance, on the evening of the 20th of June. The rebels seeing this, affected a kind of courage, and vauntingly cried out, "They are not a breakfast for us, we will soon put them to flight." Accordingly the rebels advanced against General Johnson, with one field-piece and an immense column of rebels armed with muskets and threatened to carry all before them; but General Johnson drew up his forces and stopped their progress. A skirmish immediately took place, without any execution on either side, the rebels being afraid to advance too near, and General Johnson knew his duty too well to remove from his station till the appointed time. Another column under the command of Lieutenant-general Dundas, arrived and encamped about two miles from the hill, on the left of the river Slaney, supported by another column on the right under the command of Major-general Sir James Duff and Loftus.

The troops commanded to march from different quarters, to surround the rebel camp of Vinegar hill, constituted in the whole amount a force of near thirteen thousand effective men, with a formidable train of artillery. With such a force the whole rebel army at Vinegar hill, in which lay almost the whole strength of the rebellion, must have been annihilated by slaughter or surren-

dry, if the plan had been well executed ; but General Needham, with the column under his command, did not arrive at the place assigned him until after the rebels were repulsed. When the general had come within six miles of the appointed place, he received orders to return to Solihorough, a distance of eight miles, where General Lake was quartered ; and on his arrival there, the general directed him to return and occupy the place first allotted him. The soldiers were much fatigued by such a harassing march, so that their movement was extremely slow, on which account the infantry did not arrive till nine o'clock in the morning, when the rebels had been defeated.

At half past five in the morning the three columns made the signal for a general attack, by each firing a gun. The engagement began with a terrible discharge of artillery, which was kept up for an hour and three-quarters. The position of the right column when the firing commenced, being on a rising ground at the west end of the town of Ennisconry, and Vinegar-hill being on the east, they fired on the rebels with six-pounders, with considerable effect, while the troops, covered by the fire of their own cannon, attacked them in the town, who had taken post in the most advantageous positions in the streets and houses. When the troops entered the town, a party of them advanced to an open space, opposite the court-house, with one field-piece, on which a numerous body of pikemen

rushed from that building, overpowered the party, and took possession of the gun, which they kept for a short time; but it was soon re-taken by another party of troops who followed, and killed a great number of the rebels who were engaged in this place. The king's troops having entered the town in different places, and the rebels finding they could make no effectual resistance, fled to Vinegar-hill; but before they could gain the top, it was cleared by the centre column, which had formed on a rising ground on the north side of the hill, where the rebels had raised a breast-work. Here the rebels were well served from six-pounders and mortars, the shells of which lighting upon the hill, great numbers of the rebels crowded round them, for the purpose of taking them up, when they exploded, and blew the unfortunate wretches to atoms. Seeing the effect of the shells, they were thrown into the greatest confusion and dismay; nor could they conceive what to make of them. Some of them, running about in the utmost distress, shouting out "They spit fire at us." — Others saying, "We can stand any thing but these guns which fire twice." The carnage amongst them, occasioned by the bursting of the shells, was extremely great, and fully answered the purpose intended. Finding they could hold out no longer, they retreated from the top of the hill, which they hitherto considered impregnable, and took another position on the lower hill, on the east side. The king's troops immediately ascended to the top of the hill, pulled down the rebel standard, which was flying

on the top of the wind-mill, and displayed the royal banners. The rebels now formed themselves on the lower hill, took shelter behind the hedges, and again bid defiance to the king's troops. They maintained a heavy fire on the light brigade, commanded by Colonel Campbell, but nothing could withstand the valour and intrepidity of these troops, they rushed on them like furies—charging them in their entrenchments, and with the assistance of the left column, which flanked them, soon put the rebels to flight. The cannon taken on the hill were then turned on them, which threw them into confusion; the cavalry then pursued and a terrible carnage ensued, which would have been still greater if General Needham could have arrived in time to intercept their retreat.

Most of the rebels fled towards Wexford, headed by the following generals: Father John Murphey, Father Kearns, Anthony Perry, Edward Fitzgerald, and John Hay. After passing Carrickbridge, one column entered Wexford, where they remained a short time, threatening to destroy the remaining protestants without distinction; which they would have effected had it not been for the approach of General Moore's army. They then left Wexford, and marched for the county of Wicklow.

As they proceeded on the road, information was received that a party of cavalry, with some yeomen infantry, had been scouring the country in the neighbourhood of

Gorey and Arklow, and killed about fifty men whom they found straggling homeward from the rebel army. They instantly ran towards Gorey, determined on vengeance; but before they arrived they met the troops, with whom they had a skirmish, and obliged them to retreat. A number of loyalists, who fled from Gorey to Arklow, were at this time returning to their homes, and were overtaken by the rebels and slaughtered along the road, to the number of thirty-seven, beside a few who were left for dead and afterwards recovered. In the skirmish of this day, which will long be remembered by the title of "Bloody Friday," seven of the rebels were killed, and only three of the yeomen infantry. The rebels having accomplished their purpose, they set forward again to the Wicklow mountains.

Father Clinch, of Enniscorthy, was killed in this engagement. Being mounted on a white horse, and frequently reconnoitring, he attracted the notice of our army. When they were retreating he was overtaken by Lord Roden, who wounded him in the neck, after receiving his fire. At that instant an officer of Lord Roden's regiment rode up and shot him.

The rebels had near five hundred killed, besides a great number wounded. They left all their cannon, (thirteen in number) some ammunition, and a great quantity of rich plunder, which was taken possession of by the king's troops.

Our loss in killed and wounded was very inconsiderable. The column under General Johnson, which suffered more than all the rest, being fired at from the windows of the houses in Enniscorthy, was but twenty killed, sixty-seven wounded, and six missing. Only one officer, Lieutenant Sandys, of the Longford militia, was killed; and four others, Colonel King, of the Sligo regiment, Colonel Vasey, of the county of Dublin regiment, Lord Blaney, and Lieutenant-colonel Cole, were slightly wounded.

After Enniscorthy was taken possession of, many excesses were committed by the soldiery; one in particular we will here notice: a party of them entered a house which had been used as a hospital by the rebels, where they found sixteen men, who, by wounds and sickness, were unable to make their escape; they immediately shot them, and in so doing, set fire to the house, which was soon reduced to ashes; together with the bodies of the unfortunate men.

Soon after the rebels were repulsed, and while the soldiers were filled with rage, a few poor loyalists, who had encountered the greatest difficulties to escape the merciless hands of the rebels, and overjoyed at the appearance of the king's troops, unthinkingly ran towards them for protection; but before they could make their case known they were shot by the soldiery, who thought they were a party of rebels.

The town of Wexford was re-taken on the same day as Enniscorthy. The rebel army which had been some time encamped on Lacken-hill had been driven from it by the troops under General Johnson, on the 19th of June, and obliged to take post on the Three Rocks.

The brigade under Major-general Moore, which consisted of the 2d flank battalion, two companies of the 60th regiment, a troop of Hompesch's mounted hussars, and a small train of artillery, took a direction to the right towards Fookes's mill, and encamped that night on the lawn of Mr. Henry Sutton, of Long Grague. The encampment was in front of the house, which was protected on both flanks and in the rear by a thick wood, out-buildings, &c.

The following morning the rebels collected all their force, and marched from the Three Rocks to attack General Moore's brigade at Long Grague. He ordered a strong detachment under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Wilkinson, to patrol towards Tintern and Clonmines, with a view to scour the country, and to communicate with the troops which General Johnson had ordered to join him from Duncannon-fort. Colonel Wilkinson, returning without any intelligence of them, and despairing of their arrival, General Moore began his march to Tachmon, about three o'clock in the afternoon. The rebels were greatly reinforced in their march from the Three Rocks, so that their number exceeded six thousand. They marched on, boasting of their strength, and expres-

sing a desire to be up with the king's troops. When General Moore had proceeded about half a mile on his road to Taghmon, he perceived the rebels advancing towards him. The general knowing their great superiority of numbers, immediately made preparations to receive them. Having disposed his force in the most judicious manner, he sent out an advanced guard, consisting of two companies of the 60th regiment to skirmish with them, whilst a six-pounder and an howitzer were drawn across the road to Goff's-bridge, where a few light infantry formed on each side of them under Colonel Wilkinon. When the rebels came up they made an attack on these; but were served with such a tremendous fire of grape-shot and musketry, that they were obliged to retreat over the bridge, in the greatest confusion. During this time a great body of them moved towards the left wing, but Majors Aylermer and Daniel, with five companies of light infantry and a six-pounder were detached against them. The 60th regiment finding no more opposition in front, immediately proceeded to the left and attacked the body of rebels that was attempting to turn that wing. Here the engagement was very bloody, the rebels confiding in their numbers, and being so well armed with muskets and pikes, they made a most obstinate resistance. General Moore now began to be very doubtful who would keep the field, as a great part of his army could not come into the action, being obliged to guard the ammunition and baggage. A party of rebels observing the Hompesch's hussars coming

down upon them, with their green uniform; they thought that the hussars had been a party of their friends coming to assist them; but were soon convinced of their mistake, for they immediately made a great slaughter among them. The engagement began before four o'clock and continued till eight, when the rebels began to disperse, and soon after the greatest part of them retreated precipitately towards Enniscorthy and Wexford.

The loss of the rebels could not be exactly ascertained, as the killed lay scattered in the fields over a considerable extent; but it must have been very great. Had the situation of the country admitted the cavalry to make a charge on them, in their retreat; a great number more would have been killed.

When the action was over General Moore considered it too late to proceed to Taghmon, and therefore took post for the night, on the field of battle, where he was soon after reinforced by the 2d and 39th regiments, under the command of Lord Dalhousie. Here we shall leave them, and relate that dreadful event, the massacre on the bridge of Wexford.

A general massacre was twice attempted by the bloody Thomas Dixon, who was first opposed by one Hore, and next by one Scallion, both of whom desired him to single combat, and insisted that he should slay himself a man before a single prisoner should be put to death. He however would not relinquish his bloody design, and on the 19th of June, the protestants were informed that all

the prisoners should be put to death the following day. Accordingly, in the morning, Dixon, mounted on a tall white horse, rode up to the prison door, and swore that not a prisoner should be alive at sun-set. He then rode through the streets repeating the same. The town-bell was soon after rung and the drums beat to arms, for the purpose of assembling the rebels to join those at the Three Rocks, and to march against the army under General Moore. About two o'clock in the afternoon, Dixon assembled the murdering band, and immediately displayed that woeful harbinger of death the Black Flag, which had on one side a bloody cross, and on the other side the letters M. W. S. inscribed upon it, which were supposed to mean murder without sin. After having made a procession through the town they fixed the flag on the custom-house quay, near the bridge. About four o'clock the butchery began; the prisoners were brought from the gaol and the prison-ship by a strong guard of these blood-thirsty monsters in parties of from ten to twenty, preceded by the black flag, to the bridge, where they were piked to death with circumstances of the most savage cruelty, and afterwards thrown into the river, to make room for others. While they were thus engaged, a rebel captain, possessed of some humanity, went to Dr. Caulfield, the popish bishop, who was then drinking wine after his dinner, and knowing that he could stop the massacre sooner than any other person, earnestly entreated him to come and save the prisoners. The bishop, in a very uncourt-

cerned manner replied, " It was no affair of his," and desired the captain to sit down and take a glass of wine with him, adding at the same time " that the people must be gratified !" The captain refused the bishop's invitation, and walked away, filled with abhorrence. All this time the inhuman pikemen were busily employed butchering the poor protestants on the bridge ; some they would perforate in places not mortal, to increase their torture, others they thrust their pikes into the body, and raising it up, held it suspended, writhing in the extreme agony of pain, while any signs of life remained, and exulted in the deed. In the midst of this diabolical work, General Edward Roche, came galloping to the bridge, and ordered them to beat to arms, saying, " that Vinegar-hill was nearly surrounded by the king's troops; and that all should repair to camp, as reinforcements were wanting," There was immediately a cry " To camp ! to camp !" and the rebels fled in every direction. The bloody scene was instantly closed, and three of the prisoners were left on their knees on the bridge, who were so much stupified with terror that they did not make the least effort to escape. Soon after some of the rebel guard returned to the bridge, and conducted the prisoners back to the gaol ; and shortly after that, the sanguinary monster, Thomas Dixon, returned and ordered out the remainder of the prisoners for execution, and the greater part of them were tortured and put to death in the same manner as the former. He then proceeded to the Market-

house, and ordered a party from there to the bridge, and after butchering them, they returned and brought out ten more, whom they also most barbarously murdered. They then brought out eighteen, and while they were massacring them, Dick Monk, a rebel officer came galloping into the town from Vinegar-hill, shouting, "D—n your souls, you vagabonds, why dont you go out and meet the enemy, that are coming in, and not be murdering the prisoners in cold blood?" Some protestant women asked him, "what news?" he replied, "the king's forces are encamped round Vinegar-hill." He then proceeded towards the convent, and seeing the women following him, he pulled out a pistol and swore "that he would blow out their brains if they came any farther." Soon after Father Corrin was observed running towards the bridge, and when he arrived there, they had murdered six men, out of the last party that was conveyed there. He immediately besought them to spare the remainder, and it was not without the greatest difficulty he prevailed upon them; for after using all the arguments he could, with no effect, he took off his hat, and desired them to kneel down and pray for the souls of the prisoners before they put any more of them to death. The rebels complied with this request, and after he had got them in the attitude of devotion, he said, "Now pray to God to have mercy on your souls, and teach you to shew that kindness towards them, which you expect from him, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment." This had the

desired effect, and the prisoners were, soon after, re-conducted to the prison, by the guard, who swore that not a protestant man, woman, nor child should be left alive in the town the next day.

In the whole, ninety-seven of the prisoners were deliberately murdered, and all the protestants would have shared a similar fate, had it not been prevented by the arrival of the king's troops.

We shall now return to the army under General Moore. Being reinforced as before related, the general was preparing to proceed with his forces to Teggmen, on the morning of the 21st of June. At this time the rebels in Wexford considered themselves in a very critical situation, and being convinced it would be impossible for them to keep the town, they liberated Lord Kingborough and the other officers who were prisoners there, and requested that he would be their mediator, and write to the general officers to spare the inhabitants of Wexford, and their property, on returning to their allegiance. To this proposal Lord Kingborough agreed, on condition that he was invested with the command of the town. The rebels having acceded to his lordship's desires, he forwarded the following proposals, made by them, to General Moore:

“ That Captain Mc. Manns shall proceed from Wexford towards Oulart, accompanied by Mr. E. Hay, appointed by the inhabitants of all religions persuasions, to inform the officer commanding the king's troops, that they are ready to deliver up the town of Wexford without

surrender, lay down their arms, and return to their allegiance, provided that their persons and properties are guaranteed by the commanding officer; and that they will use every influence in their power to induce the people of the country at large to return to their allegiance also. These terms we hope Captain Mc. Manus will be able to procure. Signed by order of the inhabitants of Wexford,

"MATT. KRUGH."

To these proposals General Moore returned no answer, but immediately forwarded them to the commanding officer, General Lake, and instead of proceeding to Tighemon, he directed his march towards Wexford, and stationed his army within two miles of that town. General Lake returned the following answer to the proposals:

"Lieutenant-general Lake cannot attend to any terms offered by rebels in arms against their sovereign; while they continue so, he must use the force entrusted to him, with the utmost energy for their destruction. To the deluded multitude he promises pardon, on their delivering into his hands their leaders; surrendering their arms, and returning with favour to their allegiance. (Signed)

"G. LAKE."

Enniscorthy, 22d June, 1798.

Soon after Captain Mc. Manus had departed with the proposals, the rebel leaders desired Lord Kingsborough to dispatch a second messenger, lest the troops should arrive before the terms had been accepted. He accordingly

sent Edsign Harman, to desire the general to encamp at Carrickbridge, before he advanced to the town. As the ensign was proceeding on the road, he was met by Father John Murphey, and having explained the object of his message, the inhuman monster said "he would have no peace," and ordered his aid-de-camp to shoot him; on which he drew a pistol and shot Harman through the head.

After these proposals were forwarded, the rebel General Roohe endeavoured to persuade them to go out and meet the army; but all his entreaties were in vain; for when Captain Boyd, of the Wexford cavalry, and a few of his troop, appeared, the rebels fled over the bridge in the greatest confusion, and in the course of a few minutes the streets were almost clear. On the cry of "The army is come," a number of wretches ran out of the infirmary, some without cloaths, and followed their associates, the greater part of whom, made the best of their way to Kilmuckridge, and the rest into the barony of Forth.

When Captain Boyd arrived, and found that the rebels had evacuated the town, he immediately proceeded to the gaol to see the surviving prisoners, who had been miserably fed, for some time, with cows' heads and potatoes. He instantly set them at liberty; but recommended them to remain in prison, until after the king's troops arrived, lest they should be mistaken for rebels and put to death. Shortly after the Queen's Royals arrived in the most regular order, not a word being heard through all the ranks,

and took possession of the garrison. The joy of the inhabitants, particularly the protestants who were doomed to death, was inexpressible. Had they arrived a day sooner, the massacre on the bridge would have been prevented.

General Lake entered the town of Wexford in the morning of the 22d. of June, and established his staff in Keugh's house. He then issued a proclamation for the apprehending of all the rebel leaders; assuring the deluded multitude, that such as would surrender and deliver up their arms, should find mercy and protection; he also issued general orders that no person should be put to death, unless he had been tried and condemned by a court-martial. He forbid any inhabitant, or other person, being molested, and charged the soldiers not to take any article away from any person, without having paid for it.

The victories which the king's troops had obtained at Vinegar-hill, and other places, over the rebels, and the evacuation of Wexford, so dispirited the rebels, that numbers of them repaired to the different commanders of garrisons, took the oath of allegiance, and obtained protections.

A few days after the king's troops entered Wexford, the famous rebel general Father Roche, was arrested, tried by a court-martial, and executed on the bridge, along with one Fenelon and some others; after which their bodies were thrown into the river. Roche was tall and very corpulent, and so heavy, that when he was suspended

ed, the rope broke and he fell to the ground: on recovering a little, he said, " God's blood what are you about & why do you pull my flock so tight?" He then ascended the fatal step a second time, and was launched into eternity.

John Hay, a rebel officer, was also taken, tried, found guilty and executed.

As soon as it was known at Wexford that the rebels were defeated at Vinegar-hill, Beauchamp Baginval Harvey, who had acted as commander in chief to the rebels, made his escape, and, accompanied by Mr. John Colclough, fled to one of the Soltee islands, about four miles from the shore, taking with them provisions, wine, spirits, and arms. There they purposed remaining until a favourable opportunity offered for getting themselves conveyed to France. Information having been received by government, where they had secreted themselves, a party of military was dispatched in pursuit of them, on the 24th of June, who landed on the island the following morning. Soon after they landed, they found a chest of plate, and some articles of wearing apparel, and after a diligent search, discovered them, secreted in a cave and disguised in the habits of peasants. They immediately surrendered their arms, came forth, and were conveyed back to Wexford, the next morning. Mr. Harvey's trial commenced the same evening. He did not deny his having acted as commander of the rebel forces, but endeavoured to extenuate, by saying, " That he accepted the command to

prevent much greater evils, which would accrue from its falling into other hands, and with the hope of surrendering that command, one day or other, with greater advantage to the country." He had no council, and after a trial which lasted near eight hours, he was found guilty, —death; which sentence was put into execution on the morning of the 28th. His head was placed on the Session-house, and his body thrown into the river.

Mr. Colclough was also executed on the evening of the 28th, and his body was thrown into the river.

Cornelius Grogan was arrested at his seat in Johnstown, and on his trial, he endeavoured to prove that he was forced to act as commissary to the rebel army; but was convicted and executed. His head was placed on the Court-house, and his body thrown into the river.

Matthew Keugh, who acted as governor of Wexford, was taken prisoner, convicted on the clearest evidence, and executed. His head was also placed on the Session-house.

Edmond Kyan, captain of the rebel artillery, was taken prisoner, tried, found guilty, and executed.

Edward Roche, a rebel general, was taken prisoner, tried, and sentenced for transportation; and was sent to New-gate, with some other convicts. Before the vessel was ready to convey them abroad, he died suddenly.

Dick Monk, a rebel captain, received a wound in an engagement, and was proceeding to surrender himself to

Colonel Maxwell, at Newtownbarry, when he was overtaken by some yeomenry and shot.

Thomas Dixon, who led the rebel band that murdered the prisoners on the bridge of Wexford, was noted for cruelty and cowardice. His wife was, if possible, more sanguinary than himself. They never could be found though a great reward was offered for their apprehension.

In the whole sixty-six persons were tried by court-martial, and executed at Wexford.

Battle of Hacketstown.

The rebel columns which evacuated Wexford, formed a junction on the 22d of June, in the mountains between the counties of Wexford and Kilkenny, where they continued and spread desolation, for some time, burning the houses of protestants, and murdering such of the occupiers as fell into their hands. The first achievement they endeavoured to perform, was an attempt to destroy Hacketstown, in which they succeeded, though not without considerable loss. The rebels made an attack on this town on the 25th of May; but were defeated by the yeomen and a party of militia.

The column of rebels under the command of General Perry, Father Kearns, Garret Byrne, and William Byrne, of Ballymanus, marched to Hacketstown early in the morning of the 25th of June. The garrison of that town consisted of fifty of the Antrim militia, Lieutenant Gardiner;

fifty of the Talbotstown cavalry, Captain Hume; twenty-four Shillelagh cavalry, Lieutenants Bradwell and Taylor; forty-six Hacketstown infantry, Captain Hardy; and thirty Coolatin infantry, Captain Chamney. This little army marched out of town, a short distance, at six o'clock in the morning of the 25th of June, to meet the rebels, who were upwards of four thousand strong. Before they had advanced far, they perceived the rebels, who immediately began to file off on each side of the road, for the purpose of surrounding them. In consequence of this manœuvre, the cavalry were obliged to retreat by the Clonmore road, and could not return to assist in defending the town. In this retreat Captain Hardy, and four men were killed. The infantry also were obliged to retreat and one hundred and twenty of them took post in the barrack, and the remainder defended the front.

The Reverend Mr. Mc. Gee, and nine protestants took post in a house which commanded the main street, and one side of the barrack, and resolved to defend it to the last extremity. All the protestant women took refuge in the house, and Mr. Mc. Gee barricaded the lower part of the house, and placed four men in the back part, and five in the front.

Soon after this, the rebels completely surrounded the town; the pikemen immediately set it on fire in several places, and upwards of one thousand musketeers commenced a heavy fire on the town. In a short time the whole town, except the barrack and two houses, was in

flames, and the town was involved in a thick smoke, so that the loyalists in the house could scarcely see each other. The rebels finding they could not destroy the barracks, which was ably defended by the troops stationed in it, without having possession of the house which flanked the back part of it, now directed a considerable force for that purpose; they pushed carts before them with feather beds on, to cover their approach, and seemed determined on victory or death; but notwithstanding all their exertions, they were obliged to abandon it, leaving behind them twenty-eight men killed. It would have been impossible for the loyalists to have resisted the rebels, had not Mrs. Fenton broke up her pewter plates and cast them into bullets, which her husband made up into cartridges.

The engagement lasted till near four o'clock in the afternoon, when the rebels drew off their force deliberately, carrying with them several cart loads of killed and wounded; though numbers of them were thrown into the burning houses, so that not less than two hundred and fifty of them must have fallen.

From the total want of shelter, ammunition, and provisions, as well as the apprehensions of a fresh attack, the army resolved to retreat to Tullow, the same evening, having only eleven men killed and fifteen wounded. The rebels returned in the night and burnt the barracks and stores, and destroyed the houses belonging to loyalists for some miles round.

As that column of rebels still continued to infect the country near Gorey, a detachment of the Tinahely cavalry, under the command of Captain Gowen, was sent to reconnoitre towards Moneyseed. He saw the rebels near that town, in great force, having received considerable reinforcements after their flight from Vinegar-hill. Captain Gowen immediately sent an express to General Needham, who ordered out Col. Paleston, of the Antient Britons, with detachments of that regiment, the 4th and 5th Dragoons, the Gorey, Wingfield, and Ballaghkeen cavalry. As the patrol advanced, they were informed that the rebels were near Ballyellis, and that they were in great want of ammunition. The colonel then said he would put them all to the sword, and making all speed, he perceived them coming along the side of Kiltavan-hill. The rebels saw the cavalry advancing in so rapid and incalculable a manner, and immediately left the road and lay down under cover of the hedges, leaving all their horses, baggage-carts, and wounded, which they brought from the battle of Hacketstown, in the road. Here they lay till the cavalry came up in full speed, on which the rebels opened a most tremendous fire of musketry on them; and being securely sheltered, the cavalry could do no execution: and were obliged to gallop, seeking under cover of the hedges; and not being cautious enough to avoid the carts in the road, rode against some of them and were overthrown: those behind pressing forward, and being affa-

obliged to stoop, could not see them in time to stop, therefore tumbled one over another, horse over horse, whilst some of the horses feet got entangled in the carts, so that the road was strewn with men and horses plunging and tumbling about. The rebels taking advantage of this confusion, rushed on them, piked and shot twenty-five of the Antient Britons, eleven of the 5th dragoons, six Gorey cavalry, two Ballaghkeene cavalry, and two loyalists who went out with the patrol, and wounded many others. The remainder escaped and passed on through Carnew, took another route and arrived safely at Gorey. During this transaction, the Wingfield dismounted cavalry and infantry, under Captain Gowen, came up with the rebels, and being in coloured cloaths, they thought they were part of their own forces. The yeomenry seeing their opportunity, attacked them with great spirit, killed a great number of them, and made their retreat also, without the loss of a man.

The rebels having acquired a strength of arms and ammunition, by the defeat of the cavalry, and knowing that Carnew was only garrisoned by about fifty yeomen, resolved on attacking it; but the yeomenry being informed of their intentions, took post in a malt-house, and repulsed them, with great slaughter. The rebels then retired to Ballyellis, and in their retreat, they plundered and destroyed an elegant new house, belonging to Sir John Jervis White.

They then repaired to Killeavan, where they remained a short time, and then proceeded to Ballyraheen-hill. In their march they killed twelve loyalists, and burned a number of houses.

The rebels were pursued by detachments of the Wingfield and Shillelagh cavalry, the Tipahely infantry, the Coolatin, and the Coolkenna, the whole making little more than one hundred men. These troops endeavoured to get to Ballyraheen-hill before the rebels, but could not. They found them advantageously posted behind hedges, and notwithstanding that, and their great superiority in numbers, engaged them upwards of half an hour; but were at last obliged to retreat. Captain Chamney, of the Coolatin, and Captain Nixon, of the Coolkenna, and seventeen privates were killed, and a number wounded. The rebels then attacked Captain Chamney's house, in which Lieutenant Chamney and some yeomen, had taken post, who defended it and killed a great number of them.

Battle of Whiteheaps.

The rebels now assembled their forces on a large hill which separates the counties of Wexford and Wicklow, called the Whiteheaps, and remained there until the 5th of July, when two columns arrived, one under the gallant Sir James Duff, the other under General Needham,

with intention of surrounding the hill, and making a general attack. The rebels having previously received information of the movement of the king's troops, moved off the hill very early in the morning; but were intercepted by the column under Sir James Duff, and after a few rounds of grape-shot were obliged to change the course of their retreat. They were closely pursued by Sir James, and soon after were perceived by General Needham, who immediately joined in the pursuit, and finding that he was at too great a distance for his infantry to come up with them, he pushed on with his cavalry, and ordered the infantry to follow, and in a short time joined Sir James Duff. After a pursuit of twelve miles, in which many of them threw away their cloaths, they resolved to come to an engagement, being almost exhausted with hunger and fatigue; for this purpose they formed behind the hedges and waited the attack of the troops.

When Sir James Duff arrived, he began the attack by a discharge of grape shot from his carriage guns, and the contest continued for some time; but when the infantry came up, they were soon repulsed with great slaughter, and fled in every direction. The loss of the army was six men killed and fifteen wounded. On the part of the rebels, not less than two hundred must have fallen.

The mountains of Wicklow continued for some time after, the asylum of a desperate set of murderers and robbers, under Holt and Hackett, as leaders.

The band under those infamous leaders made a practice of issuing out from their retreats; in the evening, murdering all the protestants they met with and returning to the mountains before day-light, carrying with them, their booty. As they could not be brought to justice, an effectual mode was adopted to prevent them from continuing these atrocities. Wherever any protestants were murdered by them, a greater number of Romanists were put to death by the army, in the same neighbourhood. The winter season setting in, and they having no shelter, the band gradually dispersed. Hacket was killed by Captain Atkins, a yeoman, while defending his house. Holt surrendered himself for transportation. We will now return to the main body of rebels.

Battle of Clonard.

General Perry finding it would be impossible to do any more execution in the county of Wexford, it being so full of troops, and the rebel forces considerably diminished, now proceeded to the county of Kildare, and joined a numerous body of rebels, who were commanded by Michael Aylmer, expecting to penetrate into the north of Ireland; but Aylmer prevailed on him to abandon that enterprise, and attack Clonard, as there was but a small force to defend it; then march by Kilbeggan to the Shan-

non, and surprise Athlone, where he expected great reinforcements. The plan was adopted, and their united forces marched off on the 11th of July, to put their plan into execution.

The military at Clonard was unapprised of the intention of the rebels until they were informed of their approach. Every preparation was immediately made, the yeomen assembled, and under the direction of Lieutenant Tyrrel, were placed in the most advantageous positions. An old turret at the end of the lieutenant's garden, which commanded the road the rebels were advancing by, was occupied by six of the corps, one of whom was the lieutenant's son, only fifteen years old. The rebels advanced so rapidly that the gate leading to the court-yard was obliged to be closed before all the guard assembled; so that when Lieut. Tyrrel came to ascertain his strength, he had but twenty-seven men, including his own three sons, the eldest of whom was only eighteen years old. Such a critical situation required all the firmness, skill, and intrepidity of a veteran. Though the lieutenant had never served in any military capacity, his good sense supplied the want of experience, and his courage furnished resources adequate to the magnitude of the occasion. His men were equally zealous, and determined to maintain their post, or die in the attempt. After sending a supply of ammunition to the advanced post at the turret, he retired into his dwelling house, with the main body, of whom he selected the best marksmen, placed them at those

windows from which they were most likely to annoy the rebels, and requested that they would not fire without taking good aim.

The advanced guard of the rebels, consisting of three hundred cavalry, commanded by Andrew Farrell, approached the turret, apprehending no danger. Young Mr. Tyrrel fired the first shot, which mortally wounded Farrell; the rest immediately fired on the cavalry, and threw them into such confusion, that they fled out of the reach of their guns. The rebel infantry then coming up, passed the turret under cover of a wall, and taking post behind a hedge, on the opposite side of the road, maintained a constant fire on it, but without effect. The infantry which had passed the turret, being joined by another party which advanced by another road, for they purposed surrounding the town, then stationed a strong guard on the bridge, to prevent any reinforcements arriving in that direction. The marksmen in the windows soon put to flight this guard, after killing ten or twelve of them, and not one of them appeared afterwards on the bridge, so that the communication with the western road was preserved, which was of considerable importance; as will appear.

The rebels being thus defeated in the first onset, became enraged, and determined on revenge. A large party contrived to get into the garden, and some of them rushed into the turret. The yeomen were upon the upper floor, and had dragged up the ladder by which they ascended,

The rebels then endeavoured to climb up on each other, and get into the upper story ; but, as fast as they appeared, were killed by the yeomen. Some ran pikes into the floor, and others fired through it, but without effect, until twenty-seven of their men lay dead on the ground floor. They then brought a quantity of straw, and set the turret on fire. Two of the yeomen, one of whom was young Tyrrel, were put to death, in endeavouring to escape ; the other four leaped from a window, and under cover of a wall, got into the house. The rebels then set fire to the toll-house and some other cabins, to annoy the garrison, and threw some of their dead into the flames. The conflict had now lasted near six hours ; and about five in the evening the appearance of a reinforcement was descried from the house : the hopes of the yeomen were elevated, and they fought with increased vigour. One of the yeomen who had been excluded by the sudden shutting of the gates in the morning, finding he could be of no use, repaired to Kinnegad, and represented the situation of his friends at Clonard. Lieutenant Houghton, with fourteen of the Kinnegad infantry, and a sergeant with eleven of the Northumberland fencibles, being all that could be spared, immediately marched for Clonard. As soon as they arrived, Lieutenant Tyrrel sallied from the house, and formed a junction with them on the road which led to the bridge, which had been kept open. A few volleys completely cleared the roads, and having then placed the Kinnegad infantry and Northumberland fencibles in

such positions as most effectually to gall the enemy in their retreat from the garden, Lieutenant Tyrrel, with a few chosen men, undertook to drive the rebels from the garden, which about four hundred of the rebels occupied. Some of them were posted upon a mount, planted with fir trees, which afforded protection; others lay concealed behind a privet hedge, from whence they could see every person who entered. The lieutenant and his party, were received by a discharge from both parties. No time was lost in attacking those behind the hedge, who were obliged to retire to the mount; the action then became very warm, and the rebels seemed determined to maintain their advantageous situation. The yeomen, but few in number, and six of them wounded, the rest almost overcome with fatigue, could not think of retiring; still they persevered and supported a steady and well-directed fire on the enemy till they were obliged to retreat. The Kinnegad infantry and Northumberland fencibles then made great havock among them.

The victory was now complete; as brilliant an achievement as occurred during the rebellion. There were upwards of one hundred and fifty rebels killed, and a great number wounded.

The rebels retreated from Clonard, along the Dublin road, and after proceeding some distance, they turned to the right and took possession of Lord Harbington's house, at Carbery; where they drank wine and spirits to excess,

On the 12th of July they went to Johnstown, and from thence to the Nineteen-mile house. They were pursued by parties of the Limerick militia and Edenderry yeomen cavalry, under the command of Colonel Gough; who attacked and defeated them. They then fled in confusion, leaving all their cattle, stores, &c. behind them; and were pursued by General Myers, with a detachment of the Buckinghamshire militia, and a few of the Dublin yeomanry, who drove them towards Slane, in the county of Meath. They then marched off, in the night, to the Boyne, and passed it, and were afterwards pursued in two divisions, by Generals Weyms and Meyrick.

The rebels formed again in a strong position on the road to Ardee; but when the Sunderland regiment arrived, they were routed and obliged to fly in all directions. They were then charged by the cavalry, and a great slaughter ensued. Some of the rebels fled to Ardee, the rest over the Boyne, towards Garretstown, where they were again pursued and attacked by detachments of the Carlow and Ferinanagh militia; the Swords infantry; part of the Dumfries dragoons, and three corps of yeomen cavalry, all under the command of Captain Gordon of the Dumfries, who, in the course of a few days, killed great numbers, and finally dispersed them.

Perry and Father Kearns escaped into the King's county; but were soon after taken and brought prisoners to Edenderry, tried by court-martial, and executed on the 21st of July. Aylmer and Fitzgerald, with some

other leaders, surrendered on condition of being transported. Garret and William Byrne, also surrendered on the same conditions; but as it was proved that the latter had been guilty of various murders, he was tried by court-martial, and executed at Wicklow, on the 26th of September, 1799.

Battle of Castlecomer.

A body of rebels which escaped from Vinegar-hill, retreated into the county of Kilkenny, under the command of Father John Murphey, of Boolavogue, by the Scullagh gap, and thence toward Castlecomer, hoping to excite an insurrection in that quarter; particularly among the colliers. Entering the gap, and driving before them a few troops who attempted to oppose them, they entered and burned the village of Kiledmond. They then proceeded toward Newbridge, where they arrived on the 23d of June. Lieutenant Dixon, with twenty-five of the Wexford regiment, and a small party of the 4th dragoons, was stationed there, and determined to defend it. They therefore took post on the bridge to prevent their passing the river, but was soon defeated by the rebels, and obliged to retreat, with the loss of twenty-seven men taken prisoners, of whom seven condemned as orangemen were shot soon after. An express having been sent to General Agilt, at Kilkenny, he repaired to Newbridge to stop them

progress; but arrived too late, the rebels having commenced their march to the ridge of Leinster, within five miles of the town of Castlecomer, where they spent the night.

The garrison of Castlecomer, consisting chiefly of a few yeomen, had been reinforced by a troop of the 4th dragoons; a company of the Waterford, and a company of the Downshire militia; and twenty infantry and forty cavalry, of the Cullinagh yeomen, making in the whole about two hundred and fifty men; mostly cavalry, which was ill adapted to that country.

Early in the morning of the 24th of June, a reconnoitring party was sent out, who found the rebels advancing, the main body in the road, with considerable wings on each side. The party being nearly surrounded before they observed them, (owing to a thick fog) was obliged to retreat precipitately, with the loss of fifty killed. The main body of the army, seeing the reconnoitring party retreat in such confusion, joined them, and fled into the town; a number of whom took post in four houses, which commanded the bridge, and kept up a constant fire on the rebels as they advanced. The wings now extended, forded the river, and set fire to the town in several places. General Asgil at length arriving, commenced a heavy fire on the town, with his artillery, not knowing that many loyalists were still in it, making a gallant defence. This firing, however, considerably annoyed the rebels, and they determined to retire from the town about four

o'clock in the afternoon. The general now considered the town not tenable, and ordered the troops to evacuate it, in consequence of which, the loyalists there assembled were obliged to retreat with the general to Kilkenny, leaving their goods a prey to the rebels, who took possession of the town, as soon as the king's army retreated. The loss of the rebels in this action might be near two hundred in killed and wounded.

The rebels immediately began to plunder the houses of the loyalists who retreated, and committed every excess. After which the main body retired to the high grounds, where they remained till the following day. Being disappointed of raising an insurrection in the county of Kilkenny, where few had joined them, they determined to retreat back into the county of Wexford, through Scullaghgap. On the 26th of June, they marched from the ridge with this resolution, proceeded toward Newbridge, and took post near that town, on a rising ground, at a place called Kilcomney. Here they were attacked on three sides, at once, on the following morning, about six o'clock, by the army under General Ansell, consisting of near twelve hundred men, and that of Major Matthews of five hundred men, most of whom was the Downshire militia, from Maryborough. The alacrity of the latter army to attack the insurgents, seems to have been the cause why the rebels were not allowed to escape into the county of Wexford without a battle. After about an hour's firing of cannon, the rebels, fearing that they

would be surrounded, fled precipitately and in the greatest confusion, towards Scullagh-gap, leaving all their cannon, ammunition, and plunder in the hands of the army. The cavalry then pursued the rebels near six miles, and killed great numbers of them. Their artillery consisted of ten light field pieces and some swivels, and among the articles of plunder were one hundred and seventy cattle, one hundred sheep, and seven hundred horses.

The loss of the king's troops has been stated by the general at only seven men : that of the rebels amounted to upwards of three hundred. They however forced their way through the gap, where they were opposed by a small body of troops, and directed their course through the dwarf woods near Ferns, to the Wicklow mountains.

Father John Murphey, the commander in chief, was taken prisoner soon after, in an alehouse, by three yeomen, and conveyed to Tullow, the head-quarters of General Duff. He was carried into a room where the general, his aid-de-camps, Lord Roden and about sixteen other officers were sitting. One of the officers having asked him some questions which offended him, he made a blow with his fist at him. On searching him, they found his vestments and some letters, also his pix, his oil stock, and a small crucifix in his pocket. He was hanged the same day; his body was burned, and his head was fixed on the market-house of Tullow.

Battle of Antrim.

The conspiracy in the north of Ireland, which had been most of all dreaded, did not break out until the rebels heard that their friends in the south were actually in arms, though the destruction of the mail coaches was the signal for rising. Lord O'Neil, the chief magistrate of the county, having received positive information that an insurrection was shortly intended, summoned the magistrates to meet on the 7th of June, in the town of Antrim, for the prevention of rebellion.

As soon as the insurgents understood there was to be a meeting of the magistrates, they immediately resolved to attack the town that day, seize Lord O'Neil and the magistrates, and keep them as hostages.

Major-general Nugent, who commanded in that district, having received intelligence of their intended rising, ordered a body of troops to march to Antrim, who arrived too late to prevent the rebels from putting their design into execution, in the attack of the town. When they arrived the insurgents were in the town, and they immediately attacked them; but their van-guard, consisting of cavalry, being repulsed with the loss of twenty-three men killed and wounded, of whom three were officers, Colonel Durham, who commanded the troops, was obliged to order the artillery to batter the town. The rebels seeing the effect of the cannonade, and that it was not

in their power to keep the town, abandoned it, together with a six-pound field piece, which they had brought with them, and two currie guns, which they had taken from our troops in the beginning of the action. The army pursued the rebels toward Shanes' castle and Randalstown, with great slaughter, numbers being killed in the pursuit. In this engagement Colonel Lumney, of the 22d dragoons, and Lieutenant Murphay, were wounded. Connet Dunn was killed; and Lord O'Neill was mortally wounded. When the troops retreated out of the town, his lordship was endeavouring to get his horse forward, when he was knocked down and perforated with pikes, within forty yards of the yeomen. He shot one of the rebels, who seized the bridle of his horse; but died a few days after.

On the morning of the 7th of June, a body of rebels also attacked the town of Larnac, but were repulsed by a detachment of the Tyr fenibles, under a subaltern officer, assisted by the loyalists.

The rebels attacked Randalstown in the afternoon of the 7th of June, and got possession of the lower part of the market-house, in which were fifty yeomen, and set fire to it, which obliged them to surrender. They evacuated Randalstown the same night, and marched to Toome. The rebels then collected at Donagone-hill, and remained there till the 11th of June, when Colonel Clavering granted them an amnesty, on surrendering their arms, and returning to their allegiance.

Battle of Saintfield.

On the 8th of June, an insurrection broke out in the county of Down; a numerous body of rebels having made their appearance in the neighbourhood of Saintfield, under the command of a Doctor Jackson, of Newtownards. Colonel Stapleton, having received information to this effect, immediately marched with a detachment of York fencibles, and some yeomen cavalry and infantry, with two pieces of artillery, towards Saintfield. On the 9th, the rebels elected Henry Munro, a shopkeeper of Lisburn, their general, and having been informed of Colonel Stapleton's approach, they placed themselves in ambush, on each side of the road he had to pass, about a quarter of a mile from Saintfield, and waited the colonel's arrival. They suffered the greatest part of the army to pass unmolested, and then opened a heavy fire on their rear, which consisted of cavalry, and so far succeeded, that the royal army was for some time in danger of total defeat, having lost about fifty of their number, among whom were Captain Chetwynd, Lieutenant Unitt, and Ensign Sparks, and also the Rev. Mr. Mortimer, who had just joined them.

The infantry, however, on whom the cavalry had been driven in confusion, rallying with a cool intrepidity, at

length dislodged the rebels, and they fled in the greatest disorder towards Newtownards, having a great number killed and wounded. The army then remained about two hours on the field of battle, and retreated to Belfast.

While the rebels were in possession of Saintfield, a large party of them went to the house of a farmer, named Makee, who was obnoxious to them on account of his having given information to government of their treasonable meetings. They set fire to his house, and he and his whole family, consisting of ten persons, perished in the flames, and circumstances of cruelty were shewn, not inferior to those at Scullabogue.

The day after the rebels were defeated at Saintfield, they attacked a small party of troops, who had taken post in the market-house, at Newtownards, to guard a quantity of ammunition, baggage, &c. The troops finding that they could not withstand the rebels, at length capitulated, and marched to Belfast.

Having now gained a considerable quantity of ammunition, and being not much discouraged by their defeat at Saintfield, the rebels re-assembled and took post at Ballynahinch, on the Windmill-hill, and at the house and in demesne of Lord Moira. On the 12th of June, General Nugent marched against them from Belfast, with a detachment of the 22d dragoons, the Monaghan militia, and some yeomen cavalry and infantry; and was joined by Colonel Stewart, with his party from Downpatrick, making in all near fifteen hundred men. After a few

discharges of artillery the rebels were driven from the hill, and obliged to join their friends at Lord Moira's, with the loss of a rebel colonel, who was taken and hanged. General Nugent then occupied the hill, and both armies spent the night in preparations for battle, which began in the morning of the 13th, at which time the town was set on fire by the king's troops. The action was maintained with little or no execution, the rebel cannon being small; and the shells from the royal army bursting in the air. At length the Monaghan militia, with two field pieces, posted at the great gate, was attacked with such determined fury by the rebel pikemen, that it was obliged to fall back on the Hillsborough cavalry, who also fell back in great confusion. The troops afterwards found means to rally, while the Argyllshire fencibles were making their attack on another quarter. The rebels, confused and distracted, then retreated up the hill, and making a determined stand at its top, at a kind of fortification, defended the post for a considerable time, but at length were obliged to give way, and fled in all directions, with the loss of their cannon and about two hundred men killed and wounded. The loss of the king's army may have amounted to about forty, of whom two were officers, Lieutenant Ellis wounded, and Captain Evatt shot dead. The main body of the rebels retreated to the mountains of Sleevicroob, where they soon after separated and returned to their several homes. Some of their leaders were

soon after apprehended and executed, and thus terminated this short and partial, but active and vigorous insurrection.

On the 11th of June, the rebels made an attack upon the town of Portaferry, but were repulsed by a small party of yeomanry, under the command of Captain Mathews, assisted by the fire of a revenue cruiser, commanded by Captain Hopkins, with the loss of forty men.

During all this time the metropolis remained perfectly tranquil, except in cases of alarm within, and accounts of hostilities in the country. The situation of the city and the exertions of the yeomanry, have been previously described. Soon after the rebellion broke out, a number of respectable gentlemen, apprehended as rebel leaders, in the city, were tried and executed: among whom were, a protestant named Bacon, of Great Ship Street, who was apprehended disguised in female apparel, proceeding in a chaise to the country, and executed near Carlisle bridge, on the 2d of June. Lieutenant Esmond, found guilty of being leader in the attack on Prosperous, was executed on the 11th, on the same scaffolding. The following day Henry and John Sheares were brought to trial, condemned, and soon after executed.

The British Ministry then appointed Lord Cornwallis to the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, and he accordingly made his entrance into the metropolis on the 20th of

June, and soon after, Lord Camden left Ireland, and returned to England.

On the 10th of July, a proclamation was published in the Dublin Gazette, offering a general pardon and protection to the insurgents, in case of their surrendering and returning to their allegiance, which had the desired effect. Soon after, an agreement was entered into between government and the chiefs of the United Irish, in which they were to give every information respecting their transactions, without being obliged to implicate any person, and that they in return (including Mr. Oliver Bond, who was then under sentence of death, and others who might wish to take the benefit of the treaty) should be pardoned on condition of their leaving Ireland. The agreement was signed by seventy-three persons, on the 29th of July, and six of the principal leaders, among whom were, Dr. Mc. Nevin, Thomas Addis Emmett, Arthur O'Connor, and Samuel Neilson, gave details on oath, in their examinations before the secret committees of the two houses of parliament.

Notwithstanding this agreement, fifteen of the principal prisoners were detained and put into custody. Mr. Oliver Bond died suddenly in prison.

*Landing of the French Troops in the Bay of
Killala.*

After government considered the rebellion completely suppressed, a small body of French troops landed in the bay of Killala, in the county of Mayo, quite remote from the scene of rebellion, on the 22d of August. This army consisting of about eleven hundred men, including seventy officers, under the command of General Humbert, was brought over in three frigates.

The garrison of Killala, consisting of only fifty men, thirty of whom were yeomen, the rest a detachment of the Prince of Wales's regiment of fencibles, after a spirited attempt to oppose the entrance of the French van guard, between seven and eight o'clock in the evening of that day, were obliged to retreat precipitately, having had two of their number killed, and Lieutenant Sills, of the fencibles, and Captain Kirkwood, of the yeomen, with nineteen privates made prisoners. The French troops then entered and took possession of the town of Killala. The following morning General Humbert sent a small detachment of his army to take possession of Ballina, a town seven miles to the south of Killala, which was opposed by a superior force of the royal troops, and retreated to a bridge, under which lay concealed a serjeant's guard of French soldiers, and were pursued by

the royal troops until they came within two hundred yards of the bridge, when the French started up, and gave them a volley, by which the Rev. George Fortesque, rector of Ballina, who had volunteered, and two carabineers were wounded, the clergyman mortally. The French then advanced to the town and took possession of it, in the evening of the 24th. The garrison, under Colonel Sir Thomas Chapman, and Major Keir, of the carabineers, retreated to Foxford, ten miles to the south, leaving a garrison in the hands of the enemy.

On the 24th of August, Lord Cornwallis received intelligence of the landing of the French troops, and immediately ordered a force, which was thought to be more than sufficient for the purpose, to proceed to that quarter. Major-general Hutchinson arrived at Castlebar on the 25th, from Galway, and was joined the following night, by Lieutenant-general Lake, who had been ordered by Lord Cornwallis, to take the command of the forces assembling in Cannought, to oppose the French army. The forces already collected, amounted to between three and four thousand men; yet the generals did not wish to attack the enemy, until more forces arrived; therefore intended to remain at Castlebar a few days. General Humbert, wisely chose the offensive rather than the defensive part in the attack; and accordingly marched with the utmost diligence to attack the forces at Castlebar, and would have surprised the king's army before daylight had

it not been for the extreme ruggedness of the roads, by which he advanced.

Very few of the Irish at Killala, joined the French on their landing; but when the latter gained possession of Ballina, great numbers flocked to their standard, and received the arms and cloathing which had been sent for them by the French government.

In order to excite rebellion, before too powerful an army could possibly be collected, to overwhelm him, General Humbert determined to attack the forces at Castlebar; he therefore commenced his march early in the morning of the 26th, with about eight hundred French troops and near two thousand of the Irish peasantry. Instead of the common road which goes through the town of Foxford, where General Taylor, with a body of troops, had been stationed, to watch the movements of the enemy, General Humbert advanced over mountains which had hitherto been deemed impassible to an army, and where his further progress might have been stopped by a single company, with two pieces of artillery, at a place called the gap of Barnageehy, six miles from Castlebar, had our army been apprised of his approach in that direction. The artillery of the invaders consisted of only two small curricule guns, the carriage of one of which broke down, owing to the ruggedness of the road, and caused a considerable delay in their march, which was very fortunate for our army.

At two o'clock in the morning of the 27th, information was received, at Castlebar, of the approach of the enemy through the mountains. At seven they were within three miles of the town. Our army was immediately drawn up in an advantageous position, with fourteen pieces of artillery, between the town and the assailants. The royal army was greatly superior to that of the French, both in numbers and freshness of the men, who were free from fatigue, while the enemy were almost exhausted with scrambling over the mountains, near twenty hours, without repose, from which circumstance our troops promised themselves an easy victory. In the beginning of the action, appearances were favourable to their expectations; as the enemy were three times driven back by the fire of our artillery, which was generally believed to have been well managed under the directions of Captain Shortall. These veterans however determined not to retreat, though, from the appearance and excellent disposition of our army, they expected nothing but to be obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war, and as the Irish insurgents were as yet of little or no use to them in an engagement. The enemy then fled away in small parties, both to the right and left, as if they intended to attack our troops in flank, and some of them advanced to the left so as almost to touch the points of the bayonets of the Fraser fencibles. The French had lost many of their number, principally by the fire of our artillery, and had fired very few shots, when the royal army, seized with an unaccountable

panic, broke on all sides, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the officers, and retreated in the greatest confusion into the town, and when the enemy advanced, they fled on the road to Tuam.

A small party of French soldiers pursued the retreating army upwards of a mile from the town, when a party of Lord Roden's cavalry wheeled and cut them down.

Still our army seemed to be panic-struck, and they retreated so precipitately as to reach the town of Tuam, thirty miles from Castlebar, in the evening of the same day, and after a short refreshment retired still farther towards Athlone, where an officer and sixty men arrived at one o'clock on Tuesday the 29th, having performed a march of sixty-three miles in twenty-seven hours.

Our army lost fourteen pieces of artillery, in this unexpected defeat, four of which were carriage-guns. The loss of the men was stated at fifty-three killed, thirty-four wounded, and two hundred and seventy-nine missing. Among the wounded were two lieutenants and three sergeants; and among the missing were two majors, three captains, six lieutenants, three ensigns, two staff-officers, ten sergeants, and two drummers. The greater part of the privates voluntarily joined the enemy, which circumstance, gave some grounds for suspicion that treachery had some share in the defeat at Castlebar. The loss of the French in killed and wounded was said to have been greater than that of the royal army:

Immediately on intelligence of the invasion, Lord Cornwallis determined to march in person against the enemy, and accordingly arrived at Philipstown on the 26th of August; and the following day he proceeded to Kilbeggan, having made a progress of forty-four Irish miles in two days. He arrived at Kilbeggan very early in the morning of the 28th, when he was informed of the defeat at Castlebar; he then advanced to Athlone, where he was positively informed by many who had fled through Tuam, particularly an officer of the carabineers, that the French had pursued General Lake's army to Tuam, driven it from that post, and taken possession of the town; but the French army was too much fatigued with their march through the mountains, to pursue the royal troops further than Castlebar. When General Lake arrived at Tuam, he judged that post unsafe, particularly as he had lost all his artillery and ammunition, and some of the troops being disorderly, he judged it expedient to retreat nearer to Athlone. Even in this town an attack was expected, though it is sixty-three miles from Castlebar.

Lord Cornwallis saw that the utmost caution was necessary, as well as vigour in the movements of his forces. The motions of the main army, immediately under his own command, were calculated to cover the country, to intimidate the abettors of rebellion, and to afford an opportunity of rallying to any smaller body of troops which might be defeated; while these troops were ordered to harass the enemy as much as was in their power, without

running risks, or engaging in battle without almost a certainty of success. Lord Cornwallis proceeded on the 30th of August, towards Castlebar, and arrived at Hollymount on the 4th of September, whence he purposed to advance to Castlebar, fourteen miles distant, and attack the French army posted in that town, till in the evening of the same day, he received information that the French had abandoned that town in the morning, and had proceeded in the direction of Foxford; having been informed of Lord Cornwallis's approach.

After the royal army was defeated at Castlebar, and the French had taken possession of the town, great numbers of the Irish peasantry flocked to their standard, as those had done at Ballina, from the mountainous parts of the county of Mayo. To furnish these multitudes with firearms, these brought from France, were found to be quite insufficient, though, according to the account of Colonel Charost, to the bishop of Killala, fifty-five hundred muskets were delivered to them at Castlebar. Those mountaineers were found to be very awkward in the use of fire-arms, and were of little use to the French, who expected far more powerful assistance from the Irish. They had also expected to be immediately followed by a large army and a considerable number of arms, with ammunition and stores from France. Being entirely disappointed in the former expectation, and seeing no prospect of being gratified with the latter, they began to apprehend that they had only been sent to annoy the enemies of their

country. They however, even in this case, resolved to perform their duty, and use every effort in their power, against the British government, until they should be compelled to surrender.

On the 1st of September General Humbert ordered the troops which he left at Killala, to repair to the main body, and on the 4th of the same month, he marched from Castlebar, and directed his march through Foxford, towards the town of Sligo, with a design of entering the county of Donegal, where it was expected, the additional forces from France, would land. A body of the king's troops, under Colonel Crawford, supported by another under Lieutenant-general Lake, hung upon the rear of Humbert's army; another body of troops, under General Mobre, watched the motions of the enemy, at a greater distance; while the main army, under Lord Cornwallis, proceeded in a parallel direction from the town of Hollymount, through Clare and Ballyhaunis, towards Carrick-on-Shannon, intending to regulate his subsequent motions by those of the enemy.

The advanced-guard of the French having passed Tubbercurry, after a smart action with some yeomen, and arrived at the village of Coloony, about five miles from Sligo, where it was gallantly opposed by Colonel Verreker, with a detachment of the city of Limerick militia, a few yeomen, and thirty of the 24th dragoons, and two carriage guns, in the whole not exceeding three hundred

men. Colonel Verreker found the enemy advantageously arranged for his reception between him and Colony. The colonel engaged the French about an hour and a half, but was at length obliged to retreat to Sligo, with the loss of his artillery, and some men killed and wounded. Himself and four other officers were wounded, and Ensign Rumley killed. The loss of the French in this action exceeded fifty, thirty of whom were wounded.

Notwithstanding the royal troops were defeated, the French army received such a severe check, that General Humbert thought proper to relinquish his design of attacking Sligo. Humbert then directed his march through Drummahair towards Manorhamilton, in the county of Leitrim, leaving on the road, for the sake of expedition, three six-pounders dismounted, and throwing five other pieces of artillery over the bridge into the water at Drummahair. When he had come within a few miles of Manorhamilton, he suddenly wheeled to the right, and directed his course through Drumkerin, with intention, as is supposed, of attempting to reach the town of Grenard, in the county of Longford, where an insurrection had broken out. The troops under Colonel Crawford, pursued the enemy with such expedition, that on the 7th he came to an action with the rear-guard, between Drumshambo and Ballynamore, in which he was defeated with some loss.

The French army then passed the river Shannon at Ballintra, and halted in the night at Cloone, whence it

proceeded to Ballinamuck, and arrived on the 8th of September, and was so closely followed by the troops under General Lake and Colonel Crawford, that its rear-guard had not time to blow up the bridge at Ballintra, to impede the pursuit. About this time Lord Cornwallis, with the main army, crossed the same river at Carrick-on-Shannon, and marched by Mohill to Saint-Johnstown, in the county of Longford, to intercept the enemy in front, should it proceed to Grenard; by which movement the French army was reduced to such a situation that, if it had proceeded, it would have been surrounded by an army of near thirty thousand men.

General Humbert then arranged his forces in order of battle, and determined to maintain the honour of the French arms, until he should be compelled to surrender. The rear-guard of his army was then attacked by the troops under Colonel Crawford, when about two hundred infantry surrendered. The rest continued to defend themselves with great spirit for near an hour; but when the main body of the army, under General Lake, appeared, they also surrendered, after having made Lord Roden, and a small party of dragoons, prisoners. Lord Roden, and the dragoons, advanced into the French line, for the purpose of obtaining their surrendry, without the effusion of blood, when they were made prisoners. Soon after the king's troops came up, and the French desired Lord Roden to order them to halt, and they surrendered.

General Humbert surrendered to Lieutenant-general Lake, and was afterwards conducted to Lord Cornwallis, who was about five miles off.

The rebels who had joined the French, and accompanied them to Ballynamuck, were excluded from quarter, and of course fled, as fast as they could, in all directions, and were pursued by our cavalry, who made a great slaughter among them, having killed near five hundred. The number of French prisoners were seven hundred and forty-eight privates, and ninety-six officers; they having sustained a loss of two hundred and eighty-eight men, since their landing at Killala.

While the French were marching from Castlebar, an alarming insurrection broke out in the neighbourhood of Grenard, which was designed to make a diversion in their favour, and to afford them a commodious post, whence they might, when united, direct their operations against the metropolis; to prevent this junction Lord Cornwallis prudently marched his forces in a line between the invading army and the interior country. Great numbers of rebels joined this conspiracy, particularly in the county of Longford, who were headed by the O'Haras, the two Dennisons, O'Connell, Farrell, and O'Reilly, all men of property. Their plan was to rise at the summons of their chiefs in the neighbourhood of Grenard, to seize that post and then to attack the town of Cavan, where a great quantity of arms and ammunition were deposited. On

the 5th of September, a body of upwards of four thousand of these insurgents were on the point of surprising the town of Grenard, before any considerable force could be had for its protection. Between seven and eight in the morning the rebels were within sight of the town, under the command of Alexander Denniston. At this critical moment Captain Cottingham of the Cavan and Ballyhaife yeomen infantry and eighty-five men arrived for its defence, and joined the few yeomen who were in the town. Captain Cottingham's force now consisted of one hundred and fifty-seven infantry and forty-nine cavalry; which he placed in an advantageous position on a hill, between the insurgents and the town; but observing that the rebels, who were advancing in one column, divided into three for the purpose of surrounding his little army, he retreated to another position still nearer the town, where he was protected by a bank and other fences, and in this position awaited the attack of the rebels, who drove a number of cattle before them to annoy the yeomen, but they turned the cattle aside without falling into confusion; then the rebels advanced close to their line, and received a destructive discharge of musketry; notwithstanding which they persevered in their attempt during five hours, from nine in the morning till two in the afternoon, when they fled and were pursued with great slaughter. It was said that upwards of four hundred

rebels were killed in this action, without any loss on the part of the yeomen, except two privates who were slightly wounded. Great praise is due to Captain Cottingham, and the men under his command, for having repulsed so superior a force. Beside the yeomen, three gentlemen are much praised for their gallant behaviour on this occasion, Andrew Bell, of Drumkeel, and Moutray Erskine, who volunteered, and Ralph Dapping who defended the entrance into the town by the barracks. This victory was of the greatest importance, as it prevented the spreading of the insurrection, and those murders and devastations which would have been its consequences.

The main body of the rebels, after its defeat, directed its march to Wilson's hospital, a commodious building erected for charitable purposes, the maintenance of twenty aged men and an hundred boys, in the county of Westmeath, from a legacy bequeathed by Andrew Wilson, of Piersfield. This building had been entered and plundered in the morning of the same day, by another body of the rebels, who were taking measures to murder, on the following day, the 6th of September, twenty-seven protestant prisoners, who had been conveyed thither from the country, when the defeated rebels arrived; which they would have effected, had not they been prevented by the approach of a small body of troops which Lord Longford had, with great diligence, collected. This force consisted of some yeomen and a detachment of the Argyleshire sen-

ables, with one field piece, under the command of Major Porter, the whole not exceeding two hundred and fifty men. A large body of rebels, five hundred of whom were armed with muskets, marched from the hospital to meet these troops, near the village of Bunbrusna. Here this little army was posted as soon as intelligence was received of the advance of the rebels, and awaited their attack, which began with a most furious attempt to seize the field piece; but after a few discharges of grape shot, by which many of them were killed, they were obliged to retreat in the greatest confusion. In their retreat a party of them took shelter in a farm-house and out-buildings, which the king's troops immediately set fire to, and they were in consequence burned; together with many of the unfortunate wretches who had gone into them. It was now almost dark, and the troops determined to lay on their arms all night, and attack the insurgents in the hospital next morning. With this intention they proceeded at day light, but found it evacuated by the rebels, who had plundered and destroyed every valuable article they found in it. The loss of the rebels, in this action, has been stated at upwards of one hundred killed and wounded; while that of the royalists was only two men killed.

After this time, the rebels never appeared in arms in the neighbourhood of Grenard; but in the western parts of the country, particularly in the county of Mayo, where they had first risen to assist the French, they still continued in a state of insurrection. They were not informed of

the surrendry of General Humbert's army, until a few days after it had taken place ; and before they knew that circumstance a body of rebels attacked Castlebar, which had been occupied by the king's troops, immediately on the evacuation of it by the French.

The garrison, consisting of fifty-seven Frazer fencibles, thirty-four volunteers, and one troop of cavalry, was so judiciously posted by Captain Urquart, of the fencibles, as to completely rout the insurgents, whose intention was to plunder the town, and murder all the protestant inhabitants, as they were not permitted to molest them, while commanded by the French officers.

About this time most of the towns which had fallen into the hands of the insurgents were recovered, particularly Westport and Newport, by the fencibles and yeomen under the Honourable Dennis Browne, and Captain Urquart ; but Ballina and Killala remained some time longer in possession of the rebels. When General Humbert marched from Castlebar, he only left three French officers at Killala, and one at Ballina, to command the rebels who formed the garrisons at these places, and who found it very difficult to keep them in any kind of subordination. On the 12th of September, the French officers received intelligence of the surrender of their army at Ballinamuck ; which was concealed from the rebels until they were informed by some of their friends who escaped from the slaughter, which the king's troops made among them, when the French surrendered.

About three o'clock in the afternoon of the 22d of September, the king's troops arrived at Ballina, and after a few discharges of cannon and musketry, the rebel garrison, with Truc, the French commandant, retreated to Killala. On the 23d, thirty-two days after the landing of Humbert's army, and fifteen after its capture at Ballynamuck, a large body of royal troops arrived at Killala, under the command of Major-general Trench, who would have been a day later in his arrival, had he not been hastened by a letter from the bishop of Killala, expressing the danger of his family, and the rest of the loyalists in that town. We will give a description of the retaking of Killala, and the behaviour of the French, from "A narrative of what passed at Killala, by an eye-witness." This narrator says :

"The peaceable inhabitants of Killala were now to be spectators of a scene which they never expected to behold—a battle! a fight which no person who has seen it once, and possesses the feelings of a human creature, would wish to witness a second time. A troop of fugitives in full race from Ballina—women and children tumbling over one another to get into the castle, or into any house in the town where they might hope for a momentary shelter, continued for a painful length of time to give notice of the approach of an army.

"The rebels quitted their camp to occupy the rising ground close by the town, on the road to Ballina, posting themselves under the low stone walls on each side in such

a manner as enabled them, with great advantage, to take him at the king's troops. They had also a very strong guard on the other side of the town, toward Foxford, having probably received intelligence, which was true, that General Trench had divided his forces at Crosmalina, and sent one part of them by a detour of three miles to intercept the fugitives who might take that course in their flight. This last detachment chiefly consisted of the Kerry militia, under the orders of Lieutenant-colonel Crosbie, and Maurice Fitzgerald, their colonel, the Earl of Glendore, attending the general. It is a circumstance which ought never to be forgotten by the loyalists of Kildara, that the Kerry militia were so wrought upon by the exhortations of these two spirited officers, to lose no time to come to the relief of their perishing friends, that they appeared on the south side of the town at the same instant with their fellows on the opposite side, though they had a league more road to perform.

“The two divisions of the royal army were supposed to make up about twelve hundred men, and they had five pieces of cannon. The number of the rebels could not be ascertained. Many ran away before the engagement, while a very considerable number stocked into the town in the very heat of it, passing under the castle windows in view of the French officers on horseback, running upon death with as little appearance of reflection or concern, as if they were hastening to a show. About four hundred of these misguided men fell in the battle and immediately

after it. Whence it may be conjectured, that their entire number did not exceed eight or nine hundred."

The rebels met death on every side where they endeavoured to escape; for, when they were driven from their post behind the stone walls, by a flanking fire from our troops, they were furiously pursued by the Roxborough fencible cavalry, who killed great numbers in the town, and those who fled through the town were intercepted by the detachment of Kerry militia, while great numbers of those who directed their course towards the shore, were swept away by the fire of a cannon, which had been placed on the opposite side of the bay.

It is usual to commit the assault of a town to infantry; "but here the general wisely reversed the mode, in order to prevent the rebels, by a rapid pursuit, from taking shelter in the houses of the townsfolk, a circumstance which was likely to provoke indiscriminate slaughter and pillage. The measure was attended with the desired success. A considerable number was cut down in the streets, and of the remainder but few were able to make their escape into the houses. Some of the defeated rebels, however, did force their way into the houses, and in consequence brought mischief upon the innocent inhabitants, without benefit to themselves. The first house, after passing the bishop's, is that of Mr. Kirkwood; its situation exposed it on this occasion to peculiar danger, as it fronts the main street, which was raked entirely by a line of fire.

A flying rebel had burst through the door, followed by six or seven soldiers; they poured a volley of musketry after him, which proved fatal to Mr. Andrew Kirkwood, a most loyal and respectable citizen, while he was rejoicing at the victory, and in the very act of shouting out *God save the king!* In spite of the exertions of the general and his officers, the town exhibited all the marks of a place taken by storm. Some houses were perforated like a riddle; most of them had their doors and windows destroyed; the trembling inhabitants scarcely escaping with life, by lying prostrate on the floor. Nor was it till the close of next day that their ears were relieved from the horrid sound of muskets discharged every minute at flying and powerless rebels."

Having related the progress of the French army, we will now proceed to give an account of their behaviour to the bishop and his family, and all the protestants who fell into their hands. When they took possession of Killala, and made the bishop and his family prisoners, "Humbert desired him to be under no apprehension—himself and all his people should be treated with respectful attention, and nothing should be taken by the French troops, but what was absolutely necessary for their support; a promise which, as long as these troops continued at Killala, was most religiously observed, excepting only a small sally of ill humour on the part of the commandant toward the bishop."

" It would be an act of great injustice to the excellent discipline, constantly maintained by these invaders while they remained in our town, not to remark, that with every temptation to plunder, which the time, and the number of valuable articles within their reach, presented to them in the bishop's palace, from a side-board of plate and glasses, a hall filled with hats, whips, and great coats, as well of the guests as of the family, not a single particular of private property was found to have been carried away, when the owners, after the first flight was over, came to look for their effects.

" Beside the entire use of other apartments, during the stay of the French in Killala, the attic story, containing a library and three bed chambers, continued sacred to the bishop and his family. And so scrupulous was the decoracy of the French not to disturb the female part of the house, that not one of them was ever seen to go higher than the middle floor, except on the evening of their successes at Castlebar, when two officers begged leave just to carry to the family the news of the battle."

The French officers promised that " ready money was to come over in the ships expected every day from France: in the mean time, whatever was brought in voluntarily, or taken by necessity, to answer the occasions of the army, should be punctually paid for in drafts on the future directory of Ireland, of which the owners of the goods were courteously invited to accept. For the first

two or three days many people did apply for such drafts to the French commissary of stores, whose whole time appeared to be taken up in writing them. The trouble, however, of the commissary, in issuing drafts on a bank in prospect, was not of long duration. The people smiled first, and he joined himself in the smile at last, when he offered the airy security."

Notwithstanding the exertions of the French officers, to keep order, "the village of Mulharragh, a colony of industrious presbyterian weavers from Ulster, on pretence of searching for arms, was ransacked in three nocturnal invasions of the rebels, till there was nothing left in it worth carrying away; and this in defiance of a protection under the hand of the commandant, obtained for them and their pastor, by the bishop. The poor sufferers came in tears to M. Charost, to return him a protection which had done them no good."

Early in the morning of the 22d of September, some of the rebels desired the loyalists "to come up with them to the hill on which the needle tower is built, in order to be eye-witnesses of the havoc a party of the king's army was making, as it advanced towards them from Sligo. A train of fire too clearly distinguished their line of march, flaming up from the houses of unfortunate peasants. 'They are only a few cabins,' remarked the bishop; and he had scarcely uttered the words, when he felt the imprudence of them. 'A poor man's cabin,' answered one of the rebels, 'is to him as valuable as a palace.'"

In describing the French army, the narrator says: "Intelligence, activity, temperance, patience, to a surprising degree, appeared to be combined in the soldiery that came over with Humbert, together with the exactest obedience to discipline. Yet, if you except the grenadiers, they had nothing to catch the eye. Their stature for the most part was low, their complexion pale and fallow, their clothes much the worse for the wear: to a superficial observer they would have appeared incapable of enduring almost any hardship. These were the men, however, of whom it was presently observed, that they could be well content to live on bread or potatoes, to drink water, to make the stones of the street their bed, and to sleep in their clothes, with no covering but the canopy of heaven. One half of their number had served in Italy under Buonaparte; the rest were of the army of the Rhine, where they had suffered distresses that well accounted for thin persons and wan looks. Several of them declared, that at the siege of Mentz, during the preceding winter, they had for a long time slept on the ground in holes made four feet deep under the snow.

"Humbert, the leader of this singular body of men, was of himself as extraordinary a personage as any in his army. Of a good height and shape, in the full vigour of life, prompt to decide, quick in execution, apparently master of his art, you could not refuse him the praise of a

good officer, while his physiognomy forbade you to like him as a man. His eye, which was small and sleepy, cast a side-long glance of insidiousness and even of cruelty: it was the eye of a cat preparing to spring upon her prey. His education and manners were indicative of a person sprung from the lower orders of society, though he knew how to assume, when it was convenient, the deportment of a gentleman. His passions were furious, and all his behaviour seemed marked with the characters of roughness and violence. A narrower observation of him, however, served to discover, that much of this roughness was the result of art, being assumed with the view of extorting by terror a ready compliance with his commands.

“ Lieutenant-colonel Charost, had attained the age of forty-five. He was born in Paris, the son (as the writer was told) of a watch-maker in that city, who sent him over early to some connections in St. Domingo, where he was fortunate to marry a wife with a plantation for her dowry, which yielded him, before the troubles, an income of two thousand pounds sterling per annum. By the unhappy war, which desolated that island, he lost every thing, even to his wife, and his only child, a daughter: they were taken on their passage to France, and sent to Jamaica. His eyes would fill when he told the family he had not seen these dear relatives for six years past. On his return to France he embraced the military life, and had risen by due degrees to the rank which he now filled.

" Boudet, the next in rank to Charost, was a captain of foot, twenty-eight years of age. His height was six feet two inches. In person, complexion, and gravity, he was no inadequate representative of the knight of La Mancha, whose example he followed in a recital of his own prowess and wonderful exploits."

" Ponson " was hardy and patient to admiration of labour and want of rest. A continued watching of five days and nights together, when the rebels were growing desperate for prey and mischief, did not sink his spirits in the smallest degree. He was strictly honest and could not bear the want of that quality in others.

Truc, is described as having " a front of brass, an incessant fraudulent smile, manners altogether vulgar, and in his dress and person a neglect of cleanliness even beyond the affected negligence of republicans."

The French officers were sent to London, by the Irish ministry, who gave " them what money they wanted, for their draft on the commissary of prisoners, Niou. From London the bishop had a letter from the committee for taking care of French prisoners, desiring to be informed in what manner he and his family had been treated by the French officers; and on the bishop's report, an order was obtained that citizens Charost, Boudet, and Ponson, should be set at liberty, and sent home without exchange. Niou refused, on the part of his government, to accept of this mark of respect from our ministry, saying that the

Director could not avail themselves of so polite an offer, because their officers had only done their duty, and no more than what any French officer would have done in the same situation."

The principal leaders of the rebellion in this quarter were taken prisoners soon after the recovery of Killala: their trials commenced on the 24th of September, soon after which many of them were executed. Among these were Bartholomew Teeling and Matthew Tone, who were tried in Dublin barrack, and executed, the former on the 24th of September, the latter a few days after.

On the 16th of September, a French vessel appeared off the island of Rutland, on the north-west of Donegal. About eight o'clock the French landed, and with them the celebrated James Napper Tandy, invested with the title of General of Brigade in the French service. Informed of the surrender of Humbert's troops, and being unable to excite an insurrection by their manifestoes in that quarter, as the Irish had already suffered too much, they reembarked, and immediately abandoned the shores of Ireland.

In the latter end of September the principal armament sailed from Brest, with intention of landing on the coast of Donegal; it consisted of one ship of the line, the *Hoche*, with troops and ammunition. On the 11th of October, they were defeated by the British squadron, under Sir John Borlase Warren, which consisted of the *Canada*, *Robust*, *Foudroyant*, *Magnanime*, *Æthalion*, *Melampus*,

and Amelia, which were joined by the Anson, in the latter part of the action. The action commenced at half past seven in the morning of the 12th, and continued till eleven, when the Hoche struck, after a gallant defence. The French frigates then made sail to escape from the British, and a signal for a general chase was immediately made by the admiral. In a running fight of about five hours, three of the frigates were captured, and three others afterwards became prizes. Thus the whole squadron, except two frigates, fell into the hands of the British; and the hopes of the French, as well as the Irish rebels, were defeated.

Among the prisoners taken in the Hoche, was the famous Theobald Wolfe Tone, so long considered as the most able negotiator among the Irish fugitives at Paris. He was brought to Dublin, and tried by a court-martial. He rested his defence on his being a denizen of France, and an officer in the service of the Republic, and neither denied nor excused his conduct. When he found the plea over-ruled, he requested the indulgence of being shot as a soldier, instead of being hanged as a felon; and on the refusal of this by the court, he cut his own throat in the prison. The wound was thought to be not mortal, and the next morning Mr. Curran made a motion in the court of King's Bench, for a writ of habeas corpus, upon the ground that "court's martial have no jurisdiction over subjects not in military service, while the Court

of King's Bench was sitting." After a full hearing of the subject, the plea was admitted, and a writ was ordered to be made out immediately, but his removal was deemed unsafe, and he shortly after died in prison.

A smaller fleet, destined to co-operate with the above, consisting of three frigates, carrying a land force of two thousand men, and a quantity of arms and ammunition, anchored in the bay of Killala, on the 27th of October, but on the appearance of some English ships of war, they made sail for France without landing the troops, and escaped.

In this contest it is said that upwards of thirty thousand persons lost their lives, besides those who were wounded, and those who were sent on board the British fleet. The result of a deep conspiracy, laid by a few disaffected persons, who wrought upon the lower orders to promote their own ambitious designs.

Insurrection in Dublin, in the Year

1803.

About eight o'clock on Saturday evening, the 23^d of July, an alarming insurrection broke out in the city of Dublin, but by the exertions of the property and troops it was soon suppressed, though not before some blood was shed. As Lord Kilbracken was returning in his carriage, from his country seat, accompanied by his daughter and nephew, the Reverend Richard Wolfe, a large mob assembled in Thomas Street in the Liberties, armed with pikes and fire arms; they dragged his lordship and his nephew out, and assassinated them in the street, by stabbing them with pikes, his lordship's daughter only escaping. Great consternation and terror pervaded the whole of the city; the drums beat to arms, the militiamen were called out; but in the mean time the perpetrators of the horrid deed disappeared.

On the same evening, a pistol was fired at Mr. Clarke, the foreman of the Grand Jury of Dublin, by which he was wounded. Colonel Browne, of the 21st regiment of

214 REBELLION IN IRELAND.

shot, and several privates were said also to have been killed by the mob. Every measure calculated to ensure the safety of the city was that night carried into effect. It was the opinion of some persons, that the object of this insurrection was, to hold out to France, a sort of pledge, that the people of Ireland were ripe for insurrection, and ready to welcome the aid of our enemies.

Orders were given to the several generals of districts, to employ the troops under their command in the most effectual manner for the suppression of all rebellious insurrections and treasonable practices, to disarm all rebels, and to seize all arms and ammunition that should be found in the possession of persons not authorised to keep them.

On Monday morning the military got possession of every part of the town. Guards were placed on all the bridges, and the avenues leading from the town, so that no person could move out without military inspection.

The battle lasted from a quarter past eight till near eleven; during all which time the military had not only to contend with the insurgents in the streets, but also with great numbers who were stationed in the houses, and fired upon them from the windows; while others threw down bricks and stones from the roofs of houses.

On Sunday morning, the 24th, the dead bodies of the rebels were taken up in the streets, and carried to the castle-yard. One corpse attracted particular attention. It was the body of an old man, well known in the Liberty. He was barefooted and bare legged, had been shot

through the body, and lay upon the ground with a large knife in each hand.

Lord Kilwarden was conveyed to the watch-house in Vicar-street, and was attended by Major Swan, and although his lordship was near expiring at the time, he eagerly inquired as to the fate of his daughter, and being assured, by the major, of her safety, he exclaimed with an emotion of gratitude to heaven "thank God." An officer present, filled with indignation, observed, that "every man taken with a pike in his hand, ought to be hanged," which Lord Kilwarden overhearing, with that humanity which distinguished him through life, turned himself to Major Swan, and impressively exhorted him "to let no man be hanged without being brought to trial by the laws of his country."

Lieutenant Colman, with a party of the barrack division, upon the first alarm, proceeded to scour Bridgefoot-street, and observing a cart and hackney-coach standing in that neighbourhood, he searched the cart, and found it laden with ammunition, which he immediately sent under an escort to the barracks; he then proceeded to examine the coach, from which a person escaped; but, on entering the house, he discovered in the upper wall a false partition, which being opened, he discovered a depot of arms, ammunition, and cloathing for a rebel army.

In the hackney coach were found nearly three reams of a proclamation from the Provisional Government to the people of Ireland. By this sudden enterprise of Lieute-

nant: Gorman, the leaders seem to have been surprised and the head-quarters broken up.

Near Chapelizod a serious skirmish took place, in which the 69d regiment lost eight men, but amply avenged themselves in the slaughter of a great number of rebels.

One poor fellow of the 20th, a dragoon of the 16th, and a sentinel of the 69d, were basely murdered in cold blood. In the street fighting, we had five men wounded.

In the morning of the 26th, a number of pikes were found in a yard, behind a house on the Coal-quays, inhabited by a person of the name of Redmond. An artful device was resorted to in order to conceal them. Several pieces apparently of solid timber, were found to contain a number of these instruments. The military immediately gutted the house of the offender, and committed the whole to the flames.

On the same day a party of the Lawler's corps seized a number of pikes in the timber yard of Donnellan, in Baginbode street. They were concealed in pieces of timber, like those on the Coal-quay. The same day, a party of the Attorney's corps seized a quantity of ball cartridges, powder, and sheet lead, at the house of one Hinchey, who was immediately taken into custody. A large number of respectable tradesmen were apprehended and committed to prison, charged with aiding the insurgents. Among them were one Ryan, a coat-factor; Coghlan, an umbrella-maker; and a young man of the name of McGuire, who was taken in the dress of a sailor.

Great numbers of printed addresses to the United Irishmen, were discovered in different houses in the city. The following was issued after the insurrection of the 23d of July, by one Russell, styling himself general in chief of the northern district :

“ Men of Ireland!—Once more in arms to assert the rights of mankind and liberate your country—you see by the secrecy with which this effort has been conducted, and by the multitudes in all parts of Ireland, who are engaged in executing this great object, that your Provisional Government has acted with wisdom. You will see that in Dublin, in the west, the north, and the south, the blow has been struck in the same moment. Your enemies can no more withstand than they could foresee this mighty exertion. The proclamation and regulations will shew that your interest and honour have been considered. Your general appointed by that government to command in this district, has only to exhort you strongly to comply with these regulations. Your valour is well known; he as just and humane as you are brave, and then rely with confidence that God, with whom alone is victory, will crown your success. The general orders that hostages shall be secured in all quarters; and hereby apprizes the English commander, that any outrage contrary to the acknowledged laws of war, and of morality, shall be retaliated in the severest manner. And he further makes

known, that such Irish, as in ten days from the date of this, are found in arms against their country, shall be treated as rebels, committed for trial, and their properties confiscated. But all men behaving peaceably, shall be under the protection of the law. Dated 24th July, 1803.

Russell was apprehended in a house in Parliament-street, by Major Sirr and Lieutenant Minchin, and committed to close custody. After his arrest he expressed himself with great boldness and confidence; talked of the cause in which he was embarked, and declared his readiness to support it in the field, or on the scaffold. During his trial, which took place on the 20th of October, he endeavoured to vindicate his conduct from the criminality which attached to it, by asserting that in all he had done, he had acted from the convictions of his conscience, and requested that the court would make his not only the first, but the only life which should be taken. When the awful sentence of the law was pronounced, he bowed respectfully to the court, and then retired in custody of the sheriffs.

In the night of the 10th of August, the Limerick mail-coach was attacked by a numerous body of rebels, within two miles of the town of Kildare. The guard fired several shots at them, and killed two of them, after being wounded in three places; during which the coachman drove furiously through the rebels, and brought the mail safe to Dublin.

Different parties of the military had skirmishes with the rebels in the country, who were always dispersed with some loss. At Newcastle, within a short distance of Dublin, the Cavan militia were attacked by the rebels, in the night of the 14th of August. Owing to the darkness of the night they were only able to take one prisoner, who informed against thirteen others, who were afterwards apprehended and conveyed to Dublin to take their trials.

On the night of the insurrection, the following articles were found in a store at the rear of Thomas street :—
 11 boxes filled with powder and made up ammunition.—
 11 bundles of cannon powder.—246 hand grenades, formed of ink-bottles, filled with powder, and encircled with shot.—104 champagne bottles, filled with powder, enveloped with musket balls, and covered with canvas.—
 42,000 rounds of musket ball cartridges, tied up in parcels of 20 each, with 4 flints attached to each parcel.—1 scaling ladder.—156 grappling irons for scaling ladders.
 150,000 musket balls, tied up in four each, being charges for blunderbusses.—14 quires of cartridge paper.—2 cases of sky rockets and other signals.—1 box of tin tubes for the hand grenades.—496 hooks, chissels, &c.—48 quires of the proclamation of the provisional government.—1 large bench vice.—108 cartridge formers.—A piece of green cloth.—2 saws, 2 planes, and an old desk contain-

ing several interesting memorandums. Also about 34,000 pikes and the rebel standards, which were destroyed.

Great numbers of pikes and other arms were seized in different parts, many persons were arrested; some of whom were convicted on the clearest evidence and executed. Thus ended this ill-concerted insurrection.



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